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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
JULY 1, 1984 - JUNE 30, 1985

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT  
COLLECTION  
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## INTRODUCTION

### Description of the Organization of the Authority

The Berkshire Regional Authority was organized in 1974 in response to the need for public transportation in Berkshire County. The original communities of Dalton, Pittsfield, Lanesboro, Lee, Lenox, Richmond, and Hinsdale formed the nucleus of a transportation system which now includes the towns of Stockbridge, Great Barrington, Cheshire, Adams, Williamstown, and the City of North Adams.

The Authority's governing body is its Advisory Board which is made up of the "Chief-Elected Official" from each community. "From time to time", the Chief-Elected official may appoint a delegate to serve in his or her place.

The activities of the Authority are managed by an Administrator who is appointed by the Advisory Board and is responsible for the administration of the Transit Authority.

Since the enabling statute prohibits the Authority from actually operating services, it must contract with private companies to operate its mass transit services. Capital equipment is provided by the Authority for the operations.

During Fiscal year '85 (July 1, 1984 - June 30, 1985), the Berkshire Division of American Transit Corporation was the management firm hired by the Authority to operate its fixed route service.

Besides its fixed route bus service, the Authority also had a contract with Uncle John's Vans, a private, non-profit organization, to provide door-to-door van service for the elderly and handicapped in the towns of Lanesboro, Pittsfield, Dalton and Lenox.

The Berkshire Regional Transit Authority also has contracts with 16 social service agencies and 18 taxi companies to provide discounted rides for the elderly and handicapped.

On the following pages is an organizational chart showing the structure of the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority.





BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
ADVISORY BOARD

ADMINISTRATOR

TAXI  
TICKET  
PROGRAM

DIAL-A-RIDE  
UNCLE JOHN'S

FIXED  
ROUTE  
AMERICAN  
TRANSIT  
CORPORATION

PLANT  
MAINTENANCE

TELEPHONE  
INFORMATION

OFFICE  
MANAGER



## FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

### HISTORICAL RIDERSHIP

A look at the historical ridership for the FY'76 - FY'85 period shows a general upward trend of over 400% for the nine year span. Average daily ridership has increased from approximately 1,100 passengers per day in FY'76 to 4,320 in FY'85.

### CURRENT RIDERSHIP

The fixed route ridership for FY'85 was 1,322,262 for a 1.9% decrease from the 1,347,808 passengers in FY'84.

### OPERATIONS

Fare revenue in FY '85 for the fixed route operations were \$623,414 as compared with FY'84 revenues of \$637,844. This represented a decrease in fixed route revenue of 2.3%. American Transit Corporation is the management company for our fixed route transportation contracts. The fixed route contract cost for FY'85 was \$1,340,141 versus \$1,277,498 in FY'84. This represented a 4.9% increase in the cost of the fixed route contract.

Further detailed information on revenues and expenses can be found in the Financial Statements at the back of this report.

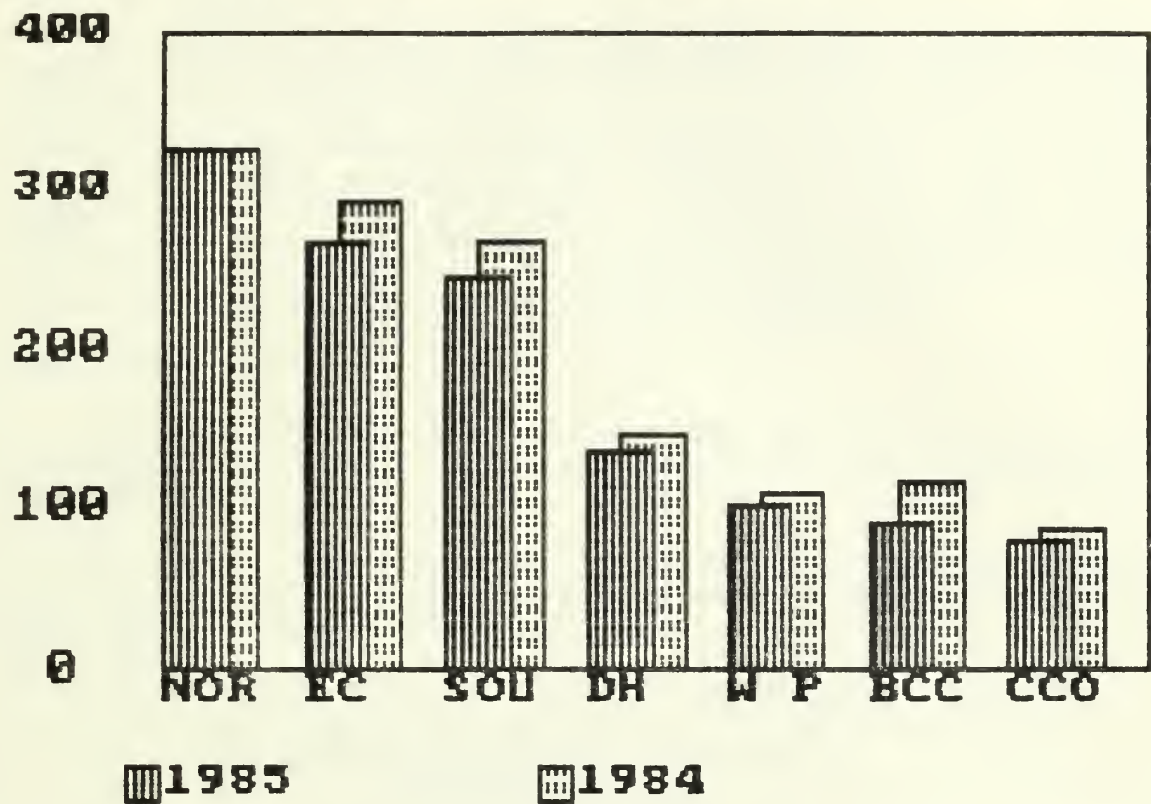


FY'85 FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

	ELM/ ALLENDALE	DALTON/ HINSDALE	CHAPMAN CORNERS	PITTSFIELD/ GREAT BARRINGTON	CRANE AVE/ BOC	HIGHLAND/ W. PITTSFIELD	NORTH ROUTE	TOTALS
PASSENGERS FY'85	265,363	135,927	80,162	245,186	91,216	100,955	325,215	1,244,024
PASSENGERS FY'84	291,876	144,874	89,041	268,040	118,726	109,374	325,877	1,347,808
PERCENTAGE CHANGE	-9.08%	-6.18%	-9.97%	-8.53%	-23.17%	-7.70%	-0.20%	-7.70%
TOTAL HOURS	7,101	7,086	3,767	12,501	3,327	3,721	15,883	53,386
REVENUE HOURS	6,884	6,416	3,522	12,207	3,129	3,623	15,165	50,946
TOTAL MILES	91,164	116,718	57,467	273,516	45,642	55,941	310,784	951,232
REVENUE MILES	88,441	108,997	53,454	265,916	43,757	53,205	288,957	902,727
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE HOUR	38.55	21.19	22.76	20.09	29.15	27.87	21.45	24.42
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE MILE	3.00	1.25	1.50	0.92	2.08	1.90	1.13	1.38
TOTAL COST	\$196,437	\$195,995	\$104,274	\$345,758	\$92,015	\$102,944	\$439,546	\$1,476,969
REVENUE	\$97,368	\$70,081	\$29,659	\$156,666	\$35,563	\$37,985	\$196,092	\$623,414
NET COST	\$99,069	\$125,914	\$74,615	\$189,092	\$56,452	\$64,959	\$243,454	\$853,555
REVENUE PER PASSENGER	\$0.367	\$0.516	\$0.370	\$0.639	\$0.390	\$0.376	\$0.603	\$0.501
COST PER PASSENGER	\$0.740	\$1.442	\$1.301	\$1.410	\$1.009	\$1.020	\$1.352	\$1.187
TOTAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	\$0.373	\$0.926	\$0.931	\$0.771	\$0.619	\$0.643	\$0.749	\$0.686
FEDERAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	\$0.111	\$0.348	\$0.276	\$0.229	\$0.184	\$0.191	\$0.222	\$0.204
STATE SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	\$0.147	\$0.366	\$0.367	\$0.305	\$0.244	\$0.254	\$0.296	\$0.271
LOCAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	\$0.115	\$0.286	\$0.287	\$0.238	\$0.191	\$0.198	\$0.231	\$0.212
PERCENTAGE OF COSTS RECOVERED BY FARES	49.57%	35.76%	28.44%	45.31%	38.65%	36.90%	44.61%	42.21%



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## ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED SERVICES

### SCOPE OF SERVICES

In addition to the regular fixed route transit buses, the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (BRTA) also provides other services in keeping with the Urban Mass Transportation Administration regulations which require "special efforts" to make transit services accessible to those with special needs, namely the elderly and handicapped. Not only are there reduced fares for the elderly and handicapped on the fixed route buses, but the BRTA also provided door-to-door van service as well as user side subsidy for taxi cab rides and private chaircar operators. The Authority also has in service six GMC RTS II buses, with wheelchair lifts, for use by the handicapped.

### UNCLE JOHN'S VANS

Uncle John's vans is a private non-profit agency which operates a Dial-A-Ride van service under the umbrella of the county wide Berkshire Community Action Council.

The BRTA, under a contract with the Berkshire Community Action Council, funded two and a half full time vans. A spare van was also funded and was used part time to accomodate any excess demand.

Below is a schedule of van services as provided by the BRTA.

BRTA ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED VAN SERVICE (UNCLE JOHN'S VANS)					
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
Pittsfield	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Dalton	*	yes	-	yes	-
Lanesboro	-	yes	yes	*	-
Lenox	yes	-	yes	-	yes

\*Spare van was used for 4 (10am-2pm) hours only for nutrition sites.



## TAXI TICKET PROGRAM

The Berkshire Regional Transit Authority, as part of its "special effort", also offers reduced fare tickets for the elderly and handicapped. This service consists of half-fare tickets which are available through social service agencies throughout the county (see list). The various agencies purchase tickets from the BRTA for one-half of the face value. The agency then sells them to their eligible clients in accordance with the agency's policies. The clients then use the tickets to purchase rides with local taxi cabs or private chair car operators in their communities (see list). The private owners then redeem the tickets with the BRTA for their full value. The program was expanded late in FY'81 to include Williamstown, North Adams and Great Barrington. The town of Stockbridge was added in May of FY'82.

The program has been successful in meeting the transportation needs of the elderly and handicapped, especially in light of cut-backs in transportation funds by other social agencies.

The total number of passengers for FY'85 was 117,039 as compared with 108,348 for FY'84. Further information is available on the following pages.



ASSESSMENT OF BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY SPECIAL EFFORTS  
TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES  
FOR THE ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED

BRTA special efforts to provide transportation services for the elderly and handicapped in compliance with Section 504 requirements are described in detail on pages 13 and 14 of this document. These special efforts consist of:

1. Half fares on all fixed-route buses between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. on weekdays and all day on Saturdays. (Time restriction instituted August 1980.)
2. Kneeling feature on all fixed-route buses. (This feature provided for first time with the acquisition of 10 new buses in March 1978.)
3. Wheelchair lifts on four fixed-route buses. (This feature provided for first time in July 1981.)
4. User-side subsidy program for the use of participating taxis and cabulance at half the regular fare (available 7 days per week). Currently in effect in Williamstown, North Adams, Adams, Cheshire, Pittsfield, Lenox, Lee, Stockbridge and Great Barrington. (This program was begun in July 1978.)

Also, a special program to nutrition sites to replace dial-a-ride van service in Dalton, Lanesboro and Lenox was instituted, effective July 1, 1985.

Expenditures (contract plus administrative costs) for "special effort" transportation services total approximately 20% of BRTA's total operating expenses.

From the Berkshire County Transportation Improvement Program dated October 1985





## TAXI TICKET AGENCIES

Berkshire Mental Health  
333 East Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
499-0412

Berkshire County Association for  
Retarded Citizens  
52 Deming Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
499-4241

Berkshire Medical Center  
741 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
443-3531

United Cerebral Palsy  
46 Summer Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-1562

Berkshire Benevolent Association  
for the Blind  
P.O. Box 778  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-3450

Pittsfield Council on Aging  
33 Bradford Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
447-7374

Stockbridge Council on Aging  
Main Street  
Stockbridge, MA 01262

Muscular Dystrophy Association  
201 Westfield Street  
West Springfield, MA  
732-7464

Lenox Council on Aging  
85 Walker Street  
Lenox, MA 01247  
637-2948

Great Barrington Council on Aging  
909 Castle Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230  
528-1881

Adams Council on Aging  
P.O. Box 255  
East Street  
Adams, MA 01220

North Adams Council on Aging  
Ashland Street  
North Adams, MA 01247  
663-7391

Williamstown Council on Aging  
Harper Court  
118 Church Street  
Williamstown, MA 01267  
458-8250

Lee Council on Aging  
Town Hall  
Lee, MA 01238

Dalton Council on Aging  
400 Main Street  
Dalton, MA 01226  
684-2000



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND GOALS

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY '85

During Fiscal Year 1985 (July 1, 1984 - June 30, 1985), the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority had several major accomplishments:

1. The signing of a three year contract with American Transit Corporation;
2. The rehabilitation of several more buses;
3. The creation of a BRTA "jingle";

### GOALS FY'86

1. The initiation of a more cost effective van service;
2. The purchase of a second data processing system;
3. The expansion of our marketing program;
4. The rehabilitation of several more buses.



TAXI COMPANIES .

A-1 TAXI  
198 LINDEN STREET  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01201  
442-6812  
JAMES BROWN

ABBOTT'S TAXI  
GREYLOCK STREET  
LEE, MA 01238  
JAQUELINE ABBOTT  
243-1645

AMES TAXI  
7 WESLAYAN STREET  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
RACHEL AMES  
663-3141

BERKSHIRE AMBULANCE SERVICE, INC.  
77 SEYMOUR STREET  
P.O. 1292  
PITTSFIELD, MA 10202  
499-3232  
MICHAEL WHEELER

BERKSHIRE TAXI  
515 WAHCONAH STREET  
TACONIC INDUSTRIAL PARK  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01021  
442-7111  
JOSEPH TRZPIS

BLUE AND WHITE TAXI  
P.O. BOX 534  
HOUSATONIC, MA 01236  
SUSAN ROCKEFELLER  
528-0911

CHARLIE'S TAXI  
PLEASANT STREET  
HOUSATONIC, MA 01236  
CHARLES CASTRONOVA  
259-4486

COUNTY AMBULANCE  
510 NORTH STREET  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01201  
THOMAS ANDREWS  
499-2527

HEGGIE'S TAXI  
14 JACKSON STREET  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
NORMAN HEGGIE  
663-7117

K & B TAXI  
119 STATE STREET  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
KENNETH ADAMS, MA  
663-5408

L & L TAXI  
40 SPRING STREET  
ADAMS, MA 01220  
RUTH GRISWALD  
743-1286

PARK TAXI SERVICE  
BRADLEY STREET  
LEE, MA 01238  
243-0020  
GERALDINE HUGGINS

RATHBUN'S TAXI  
P.O. BOX 629  
STOCKBRIDGE, MA 01262  
298-4848  
NANCY RATHBUN

UNCLE JOHN'S VANS  
67 DOWNING PARKWAY  
(1430 EAST STREET)  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01201

UNITED TAXI  
13 CHEROKEE DRIVE  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
DUANE BENTLEY  
664-6854

VETERAN'S TAXI  
BERKSHIRE PLAZA  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
NORMAN LISI  
663-8300

RED AND GOLD TAXI  
BOX 534  
HOUSATONIC, MA 01236  
SUSAN ROCKEFELLER  
528-0911

VILLAGE TAXI  
5 ARNOLD STREET  
WILLIAMSTOWN, MA 01267  
458-9449



UNCLE JOHN'S VANS  
FY'85 OPERATIONS REPORT BY TOWN

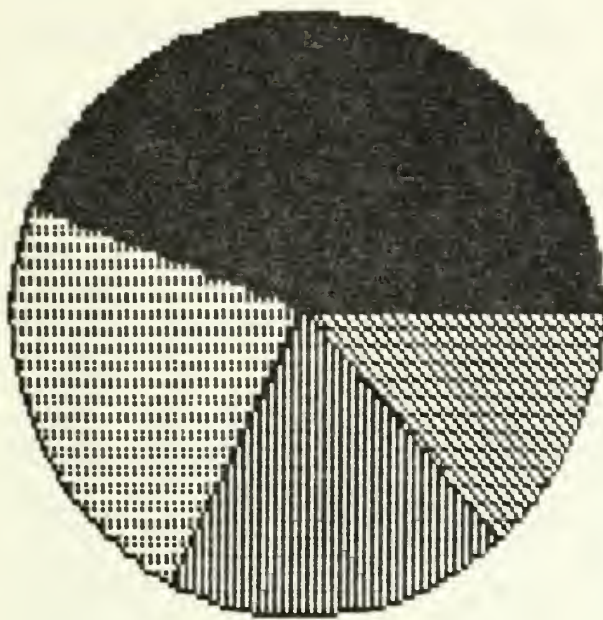
	PITTSFIELD	DALTON	LENOX	LANESBORO	TOTAL
REGULAR PASSENGERS	6,057	1,439	870	1,442	9,808
TO TITLE VIII NUTRITION SITES	1,511	2,177	3,161	1,750	8,599
TOTAL PASSENGERS	7,568	3,252	4,031	2,343	17,194
TOTAL HOURS	2,008	996	1,200	1,016	5,220
TOTAL VAN MILES	17,322	6,385	9,043	7,786	40,536
TOTAL COST	\$35,394	\$17,556	\$21,151	\$17,908	\$92,009
COST PER PASSENGER	4.68	5.40	5.25	7.64	5.35









# PASSENGERS

UNCLE JOHN'S



	PITTSFIELD
	7,568
	LENOX
	4,031
	DALTON
	3,252
	LANESBORO
	2,343

FY 1985

PER  
TION



## UNCLE JOHN'S VANS BY YEAR

	FY'78	FY'79	FY'80	FY'81	FY'82	FY'83	FY'84	FY'85
PASSENGER TRIPS	26,442	26,771	29,883	30,378	31,734	24,453	19,335	17,194
VEHICLE MILES	51,079	55,394	60,109	58,716	61,096	57,494	41,103	40,536
VEHICLE HOURS	6,784	7,054	7,343	7,186	7,215	6,952	5,238	5,220
ADMINISTRATION	\$23,783	\$11,795	\$17,763	\$8,205	\$17,787	\$13,838	\$13,943	\$7,241
CONTRACT	\$66,447	\$74,364	\$76,702	\$92,992	\$105,110	\$102,585	\$80,373	\$84,768
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$90,230	\$86,159	\$94,465	\$101,197	\$122,897	\$116,423	\$94,316	\$92,009
COST PER PASSENGER	3.41	3.22	3.16	3.33	3.87	4.76	4.88	5.35
REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	\$9,542	\$7,176	\$7,075
REVENUE PER/PASS.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.37	0.41
NET COST	\$90,230	\$86,159	\$94,465	\$101,197	\$122,897	\$106,881	\$87,140	\$84,934
NET COST PER/PASS.	3.41	3.22	3.16	3.33	3.87	4.37	4.51	4.94
FEDERAL ASSISTANCE	\$45,115	\$43,080	\$47,232	\$50,443	\$29,803	\$5,645	\$13,898	\$9,150
STATE ASSISTANCE	\$20,905	\$19,856	\$21,748	\$23,479	\$47,524	\$31,350	\$16,708	\$22,152
LOCAL SHARE	\$24,210	\$23,223	\$25,484	\$27,275	\$45,570	\$26,960	\$13,156	\$17,300
BERKSHIRE HOME CARE GRANT	--	--	--	--	--	\$6,926	\$6,420	\$3,844
DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS	--	--	--	--	--	\$36,000	\$33,000	\$25,000



UNCLE JOHN'S VANS COMPARATIVE

40.0 PASSENGERS

30.0

20.0

10.0

0.

78

79

80

81

82

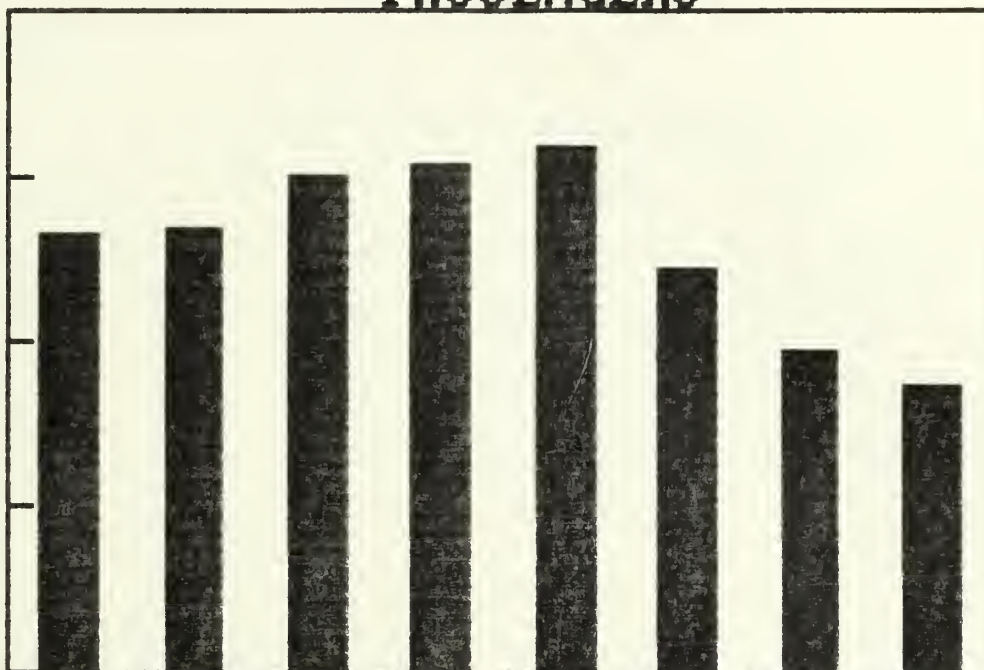
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FISCAL YEAR

THOUSANDS







	FY'78	FY'79	FY'80	FY'81	FY'82	FY'83	FY'84	FY'85
PASSENGER TRIPS	-	5,129	15,009	28,500	76,884	84,113	107,266	117,039
ADMINISTRATION	-	\$11,795	\$6,161	\$31,917	\$33,779	\$25,458	\$29,523	\$27,231
CONTRACT	-	\$18,315	\$76,163	\$131,780	\$189,347	\$209,243	\$256,087	\$261,670
TOTAL EXPENSE	-	\$31,110	\$82,324	\$163,697	\$223,126	\$234,701	\$285,610	\$288,901
COST PER PASS.		\$6.07	\$5.48	\$5.74	\$2.90	\$2.79	\$2.66	\$2.47
REVENUE	-	\$10,951	\$36,705	\$63,411	\$97,575	\$111,450	\$134,233	\$137,782
REVENUE PER/PASS.		2.14	2.45	2.22	1.27	1.33	1.25	1.18
NET COST	-	\$19,159	\$45,619	\$100,286	\$125,551	\$123,251	\$151,377	\$151,119
NET COST PER/PASS.		3.74	3.04	3.52	1.63	1.47	1.41	1.29
FEDERAL ASSISTANCE	-	\$9,580	\$22,810	\$49,610	\$30,446	\$10,878	\$48,058	\$25,365
STATE ASSISTANCE	-	\$4,790	\$11,405	\$25,338	\$48,551	\$60,419	\$57,777	\$19,470
LOCAL SHARE	-	\$4,790	\$11,404	\$25,338	\$46,554	\$51,954	\$45,542	\$46,607
PASSENGER TRIPS	-	5,129	15,009	28,500	76,884	84,113	107,266	117,039



# SUMMARY OF FUNDING SOURCES

## STATE AND FEDERAL SHARE BY SERVICE

	FIXED ROUTE	DEMAND* RESPONSIVE	CAPITAL COST	TOTALS
FARE REVENUES	\$623,414	\$173,701	---	\$797,115
COMMUNITIES				
ADAMS	\$7,826	\$1,885	\$429	\$10,140
CHESHIRE	13,994	---	429	14,423
DALTON	14,972	2,325	502	17,799
GREAT BARRINGTON	17,391	5,651	639	23,681
HINSDALE	1,626	30	78	1,734
LANESBORO	6,288	3,400	205	9,893
LEE	6,211	1,913	421	8,545
LENOX	13,010	4,405	542	17,957
NORTH ADAMS	20,538	7,211	1,032	28,781
PITTSFIELD	138,333	35,882	6,090	180,305
STOCKBRIDGE	17,263	492	480	18,235
WILLIAMSTOWN	5,799	713	245	6,757
TOTAL COMMUNITIES SHARE	263,251	63,907	11,092	338,250
MASSACHUSETTS SHARE	337,078	81,829	11,093	430,000
FEDERAL SHARE				
UMTA SECTION 5	133,066	34,515	---	167,581
UMTA SECTION 18	120,160	26,958	---	147,118
UMTA CAPITAL	---	---	105,489	105,489
TOTAL FEDERAL SHARE	253,226	61,473	105,489	420,188
TOTALS	\$1,476,969	\$380,910	\$127,674	1,985,553

\*TAXI TICKET PROGRAM AND DIAL-A-RIDE (UNCLE JOHN'S VANS)



**TOTAL COST PER COMMUNITY**

**FY 1985**

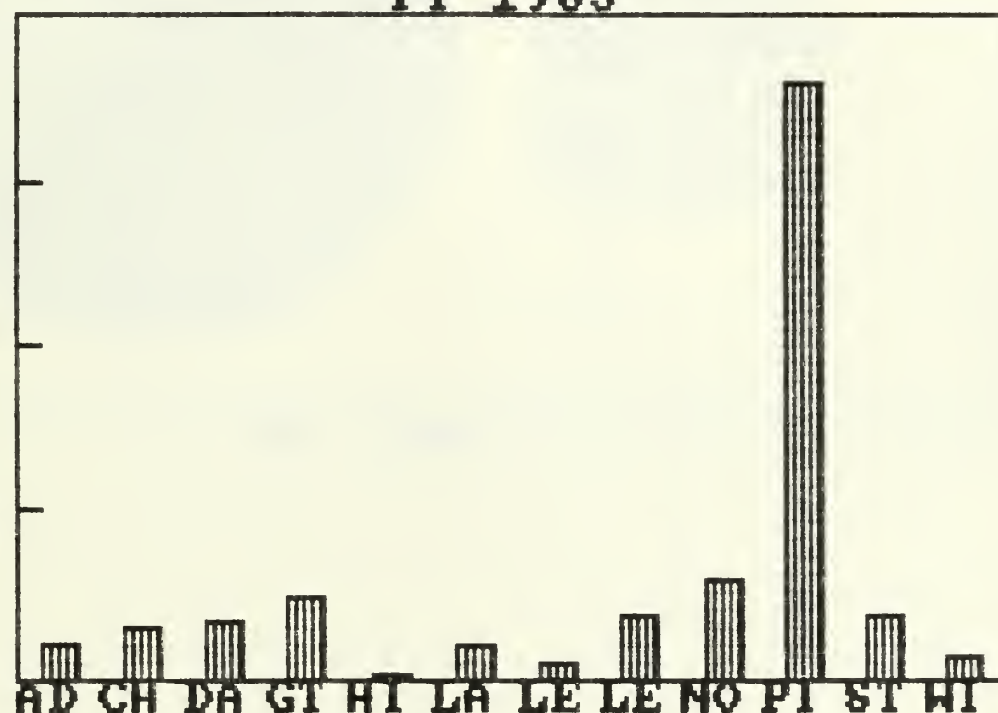
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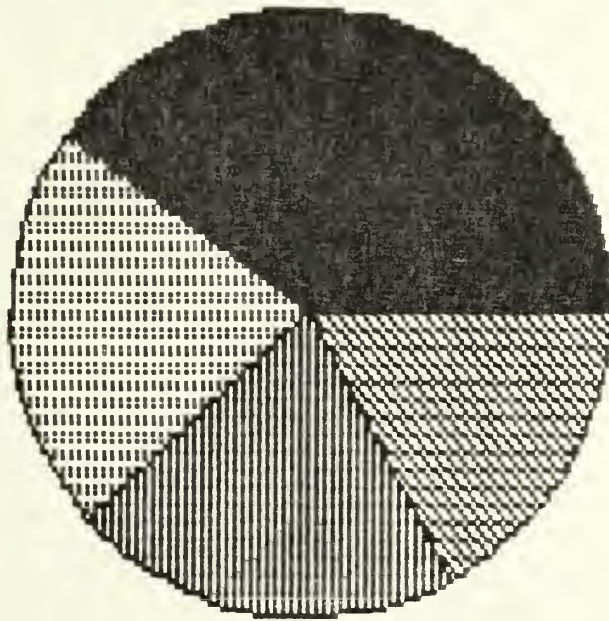
**TOWN**

4-10000



REVENUE, STATE, FEDERAL, LOCAL 3

TOTAL



TOTALS

■	REVENUES
	797113
░	STATE
	430000
▤	FEDERAL
	420188
▥	LOCAL
	330250

FY 1985





BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Retained Earnings

	For the Years Ended June 30,			
	1 9 8 5		1 9 8 4	
	Budget	Actual	Under (Over) Budget	Actual
Operating revenues:				
Fare income (schedule on page 12) . . . . .	\$ 781,000	\$ 768,271	\$ 12,729	\$ 779,252
Other income . . . . .	---	3,844	(3,844)	6,420
Total operating revenue . . . . .	<u>781,000</u>	<u>772,115</u>	<u>8,885</u>	<u>785,672</u>
Operating expenses:				
Transportation contracts (note 6)				
(schedule on page 12) . . . . .	1,675,710	1,610,577	65,133	1,654,867
Administrative salaries . . . . .	61,920	63,765	(1,845)	68,964
Professional and technical services				
(schedule on page 12) . . . . .	34,250	27,462	6,788	54,974
Public relations . . . . .	12,000	10,664	1,336	12,034
Printing . . . . .	4,000	2,210	1,790	3,760
General insurance and accident claims	6,500	6,995	(495)	4,560
Pension and group insurance (note 7)	20,050	20,930	(880)	23,071
Travel and meetings . . . . .	2,000	2,265	(265)	1,292
Office supplies and expense . . . . .	3,500	3,978	(478)	2,774
Utilities and services . . . . .	45,000	50,930	(5,930)	43,928
Telephone . . . . .	5,500	4,795	705	5,211
Miscellaneous . . . . .	19,854	6,420	13,434	6,907
Depreciation . . . . .	282,522	282,522	---	263,792
Total operating expenses . . . . .	<u>2,172,806</u>	<u>2,093,513</u>	<u>79,293</u>	<u>2,146,134</u>
Operating loss . . . . .	<u>(1,391,806)</u>	<u>(1,321,398)</u>	<u>(70,408)</u>	<u>(1,360,462)</u>
Non-operating revenues (expenses):				
Operating assistance:				
Federal . . . . .	455,424	314,699	140,725	333,277
Massachusetts . . . . .	384,130	418,907	(34,777)	400,673
Member communities . . . . .	279,730	327,158	(47,428)	315,673
Special fare assistance grant . . . . .	30,000	25,000	5,000	33,000
Technical studies grant . . . . .	---	---	---	25,000
Interest income . . . . .	30,000	39,452	(9,452)	55,177
Interest expense . . . . .	(70,000)	(86,340)	16,340	(66,130)
Total non-operating revenues . . . . .	<u>1,109,284</u>	<u>1,038,876</u>	<u>70,408</u>	<u>1,096,670</u>
Net loss . . . . .	(282,522)	(282,522)	- 0 -	(263,792)
Depreciation (note 1) . . . . .	282,522	282,522	- 0 -	263,792
Increase in retained earnings . . . . .	<u>\$ - 0 -</u>	<u>- 0 -</u>	<u>\$ - 0 -</u>	<u>- 0 -</u>
Retained earnings, July 1 . . . . .		- 0 -		- 0 -
Retained earnings, June 30 . . . . .		<u>\$ - 0 -</u>		<u>\$ - 0 -</u>

See notes to financial statements.



# BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

## Statement of Changes in Financial Position

	For the Years Ended June 30,	
	<u>1 9 8 5</u>	<u>1 9 8 4</u>
Source of funds:		
Operations:		
Net loss (page 4) . . . . .	\$ (282,522)	\$ (263,792)
Depreciation not requiring cash outlay . . . . .	282,522	263,792
Funds provided from operations . . . . .	<u>- 0 -</u>	<u>- 0 -</u>
Notes issued . . . . .	1,265,000	1,100,000
Advances on grant funds received. . . . .	11,916	---
Capital grants earned during the year . . . . .	131,860	143,273
Capital funding for purchase of used buses . . . . .	---	40,000
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable . . . . .	(24,735)	113,033
Undepreciated value of assets disposed. . . . .	<u>1,449</u>	<u>---</u>
Total source of funds . . . . .	<u>1,385,490</u>	<u>1,396,306</u>
Application of funds:		
Increase in receivables . . . . .	251,374	220,482
Increase in property and equipment . . . . .	114,879	158,274
Advances repaid or earned . . . . .	3,384	230,979
Notes repaid . . . . .	1,100,000	1,000,000
Decrease (increase) in accrued interest and other liabilities . . . . .	(22,145)	48,774
Van purchased for agency. . . . .	20,928	---
Decrease in unredeemed taxi tickets . . . . .	4,180	7,235
Technical studies project . . . . .	<u>---</u>	<u>25,000</u>
Total application of funds . . . . .	<u>1,472,600</u>	<u>1,690,744</u>
Net decrease in cash . . . . .	(87,110)	(294,438)
Cash balance, July 1 . . . . .	<u>386,849</u>	<u>681,287</u>
Cash balance, June 30 . . . . .	<u>\$ 299,739</u>	<u>\$ 386,849</u>



BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Statement of Financial Position

<u>Assets</u>	On June 30,	
	<u>1 9 8 5</u>	<u>1 9 8 4</u>
Current assets:		
Cash and short-term investments . . . . .	\$ 299,739	\$ 386,849
Receivables (note 2) . . . . .	1,252,487	1,001,113
Total current assets . . . . .	<u>1,552,226</u>	<u>1,387,962</u>
Property and equipment (note 3) . . . . .	3,890,504	3,779,573
Less accumulated depreciation . . . . .	(1,370,652)	(1,090,629)
Net property and equipment . . . . .	<u>2,519,852</u>	<u>2,688,944</u>
Total assets . . . . .	<u>\$ 4,072,078</u>	<u>\$ 4,076,906</u>
 <u>Liabilities and Fund Equity</u>		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable . . . . .	\$ 187,115	\$ 211,850
Accrued interest and other liabilities . . . . .	77,700	55,555
Unredeemed taxi tickets . . . . .	14,902	19,082
Notes and advances payable (note 4) . . . . .	<u>1,276,916</u>	<u>1,103,384</u>
Total liabilities . . . . .	<u>1,556,633</u>	<u>1,389,871</u>
Commitments and contingent liabilities (note 8)		
Fund equity:		
Contributed capital:		
Governments' contributions (note 5) . . . . .	2,515,445	2,687,035
Retained earnings (statement on page 4) . . . . .	<u>---</u>	<u>---</u>
Total fund equity . . . . .	<u>2,515,445</u>	<u>2,687,035</u>
Total liabilities and fund equity . . . . .	<u>\$ 4,072,078</u>	<u>\$ 4,076,906</u>





MASS. Y3.BTA1 : 1/486/187

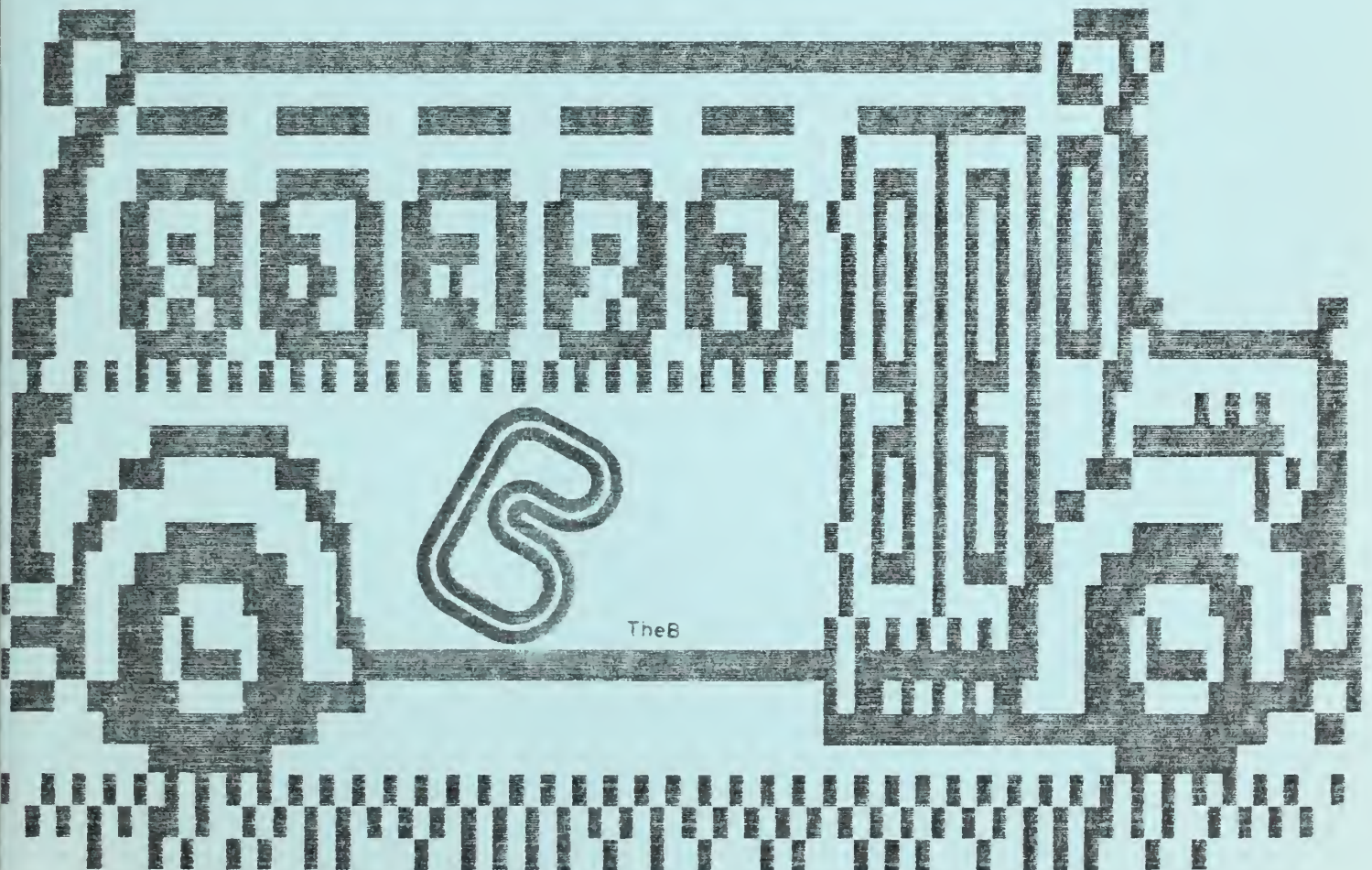
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# Berkshire Regional Transit Authority

67 Downing Parkway  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS  
COLLECTION  
JUN 9 1988  
University of Massachusetts  
Depository Copy

Annual Report  
July 1, 1986 - June 30, 1987







## INTRODUCTION

### Description of the Organization of the Authority

The Berkshire Regional Authority was organized in 1974 in response to the need for public transportation in Berkshire County. The original communities of Dalton, Pittsfield, Lanesboro, Lee, Lenox, Richmond, and Hinsdale formed the nucleus of a transportation system which also now also includes the towns of Stockbridge, Great Barrington, Cheshire, Adams, Williamstown, Clarksburg, and the City of North Adams.

The Authority's governing body is its Advisory Board which is made up of the "Chief-Elected Official" from each community. "From time to time", the Chief-Elected official may appoint a delegate to serve in his or her place.

The activities of the Authority are managed by an Administrator who is appointed by the Advisory Board and is responsible for the administration of the Transit Authority.

Since the enabling statute (M.G.L. 161B) prohibits the Authority from actually operating, it must contract with private companies to operate its mass transit services. Most of the capital equipment is provided by the Authority for the operations.

American Transit Corporation, headquartered in St. Louis, MO. operated the fixed route service for the Authority during this fiscal year.

The Berkshire Regional Transit Authority also contracts with 17 social service agencies, 14 taxi companies and 3 cabulance companies to provide discounted rides for the elderly and handicapped.

On the following pages is an organizational chart showing the structure of the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority.



BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
ADVISORY BOARD

ADMINISTRATOR

DEMAND  
RESPONSE  
TAXI  
TICKET  
PROGRAM

FIXED  
ROUTE  
AMERICAN  
TRANSIT  
CORPORATION

TELEPHONE  
INFORMATION

OFFICE  
MANAGER

CABULANCE

TAXI

VANS



## BOARD MEMBERS

### COMMUNITY

Pittsfield

Adams

Cheshire

Clarksburg

Dalton

Great Barrington

Hinsdale

Lanesboro

Lee

Lenox

North Adams

Richmond

Stockbridge

Williamstown

### BOARD MEMBER

Karl Hekler (Chairman)

George Haddad

Frank Polastri

Vincent Finneran

Eugene Clark

Edward Morehouse

Jeanne Carmel

Lawrence Healy

Charles Driscoll

William Dufour

Philip Pugliese

Douglas E. Chapman

John Cronson

Michael Muzyka



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND GOALS

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY '87

During Fiscal Year 1987 (July 1, 1986 - June 30, 1987), the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority had several major accomplishments:

1. The purchase of two wheelchair equipped buses;
2. The purchase of a second data processing system;
3. A contract for the purchase of bus shelters was awarded;
4. The expansion of the "Gifts for Kids" Campaign;
5. The formation of a standing subcommittee of the Advisory Board to study the problems of the elderly and handicapped;

### GOALS FY '88

During Fiscal Year 1988, the BRTA hopes to accomplish the following:

1. The purchase of one wheelchair equipped bus;
2. The installation of bus shelters throughout the service area;
3. The completion of the bus rehabilitation plan;
4. The purchase of a supervisory vehicle;
5. The purchase and installation of new fare boxes in all the buses;
6. The implementation of new handicapped guidelines and new identification cards.





## FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

### HISTORICAL RIDERSHIP

A look at the historical ridership for the FY'76 - FY'87 period shows a general upward trend of over 400% for the nine year span. Average daily ridership has increased from approximately 1,100 passengers per day in FY'76 to 4,100 in FY'87.

### CURRENT RIDERSHIP

The fixed route ridership for FY'87 was 1,249,967.

### OPERATIONS

Fare revenue in FY '87 for the fixed route operations were \$590,660 as compared with FY'85 revenues of \$601,138. This represented a decrease in fixed route revenue of 1.7%. American Transit Corporation is the management company for our fixed route transportation contracts. The fixed route contract cost for FY'87 was \$1,480,086 versus \$1,466,945 in FY'86. This represented a .9% increase in the cost of the fixed route contract.

Further detailed information on revenues and expenses can be found in the Financial Statements at the back of this report.



FY '87 FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

	ELM/ COLTSVILLE	DALTON/ HINSDALE	CHAPMAN CORNERS	PITTSFIELD GREAT BARRINGTON	CRANE AVE BOC
PASSENGERS	264,200	135,846	77,975	242,481	92,680
TOTAL HOURS	6,955	6,815	3,700	11,906	3,347
REVENUE HOURS	6,807	6,310	3,573	10,614	3,265
TOTAL MILES	90,735	115,450	56,538	255,005	45,794
REVENUE MILES	88,002	107,988	52,512	247,380	43,903
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE HOUR	38.81	21.53	21.82	22.85	28.38
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE MILE	3.00	1.26	1.48	0.98	2.11
TOTAL COST	\$218,784	\$217,144	\$116,356	\$374,636	\$105,377
REVENUE	\$90,549	63,602	25,913	146,699	34,078
NET COST	\$128,235	\$153,542	\$90,443	\$227,937	\$71,299
COST PER PASSENGER	\$0.828	\$1.598	\$1.492	\$1.545	\$1.137
REVENUE PER PASSENGER	\$0.343	\$0.468	\$0.332	\$0.605	\$0.368
TOTAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	0.485	1.130	1.160	0.940	0.769
FEDERAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	50,504 \$0.191	60,471 \$0.445	35,620 \$0.457	89,770 \$0.370	28,080 \$0.303
STATE SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	45,400 \$0.172	54,359 \$0.400	32,020 \$0.411	80,698 \$0.333	25,242 \$0.272
LOCAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	32,331 \$0.122	38,712 \$0.285	22,803 \$0.292	57,469 \$0.237	17,977 \$0.194
PERCENTAGE OF COSTS RECOVERED BY FARES	41.39%	29.29%	22.27%	39.16%	32.34%



# FY '87 FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

	HIGHLAND WEST PITTSFIELD	NORTH ROUTE	NORTH ADAMS WILLIAMSTOWN	TOTALS
PASSENGERS	98,592	248,890	89,303	1,249,967
TOTAL HOURS	3,754	11,860	3,659	51,995
REVENUE HOURS	3,648	11,114	3,049	48,380
TOTAL MILES	56,132	242,902	62,403	924,958
REVENUE MILES	53,387	226,477	56,928	876,577
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE HOUR	27.03	22.39	29.29	25.84
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE MILE	1.85	1.10	1.57	1.43
TOTAL COST	\$118,159	\$373,160	\$115,209	\$1,638,825
REVENUE	31,604	158,370	39,845	\$590,660
NET COST	\$86,555	\$214,790	\$75,364	\$1,048,165
COST PER PASSENGER	\$1.198	\$1.499	\$1.290	\$1.311
REVENUE PER PASSENGER	\$0.321	\$0.636	\$0.446	\$0.473
TOTAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	0.878	0.863	0.844	0.839
FEDERAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	34,089 \$0.346	84,591 \$0.340	29,681 \$0.332	412,806 \$0.330
STATE SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	30,644 \$0.311	76,043 \$0.306	26,681 \$0.299	371,087 \$0.297
LOCAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	21,822 \$0.221	54,154 \$0.218	19,002 \$0.213	264,270 \$0.211
PERCENTAGE OF COSTS RECOVERED BY FARES	26.75%	42.44%	34.58%	36.04%



## ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED SERVICES

### SCOPE OF SERVICES

In addition to the regular fixed route transit buses, the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (BRTA) also provides other services in keeping with the Urban Mass Transportation Administration regulations which require "special efforts" to make transit services accessible to those with special needs, namely the elderly and handicapped. Not only are there reduced fares for the elderly and handicapped on the fixed route buses, but the BRTA also provides user side subsidy for taxi cab rides and private chaircar operators. The Authority also has in service eight GMC RTS II buses, with wheelchair lifts, for use by the handicapped.

### TAXI TICKET PROGRAM

The Berkshire Regional Transit Authority, as part of its "special effort", offers reduced fare tickets for the elderly and handicapped. This service consists of reduced-fare tickets used to purchase transportation from taxi and cabulance companies. The tickets are available through social service agencies throughout the county (see list). The various agencies purchase tickets from the BRTA at a reduced cost (50% for taxi tickets, 20% for Cabulance tickets). The agency then sells them to their eligible clients in accordance with the agency's policies. The clients then use the tickets to purchase rides with local taxi cabs or, in the case of those persons confined to a wheelchair, from private chair car operators in their communities (see list). The private owners then redeem the tickets with the BRTA for their full value. The program was expanded late in FY'81 to include Williamstown, North Adams and Great Barrington. The town of Stockbridge was added in May of FY'82. Clarksburg was added in July of 1986.

The program has been successful in meeting the transportation needs of the elderly and handicapped, especially in light of cut-backs in transportation funds by other social agencies.

The total number of passengers using taxis during FY'87 was 124,509 as compared with 96,090 for FY'86. The total number of passengers using cabulances during FY'87 was 5,871 as compared with 3,780 during FY'86. Further information is available on the following pages.







## TAXI TICKET AGENCIES

Berkshire Mental Health  
333 East Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
499-0412

Lenox Council on Aging  
85 Walker Street  
Lenox, MA 01247  
637-2948

Berkshire County Association for  
Retarded Citizens  
52 Deming Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201 528-1881  
499-4241

Great Barrington Council on Aging  
909 Castle Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Berkshire Medical Center  
741 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
443-3531

Adams Council on Aging  
P.O. Box 255  
East Street  
Adams, MA 01220

United Cerebral Palsy  
46 Summer Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-1562

North Adams Council on Aging  
Ashland Street  
North Adams, MA 01247  
663-7391

Berkshire Benevolent Association  
for the Blind  
P.O. Box 778  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-3450

Williamstown Council on Aging  
Harper Court  
118 Church Street  
Williamstown, MA 01267  
458-8250

Pittsfield Council on Aging  
33 Bradford Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
447-7374

Lee Council on Aging  
Town Hall  
Lee, MA 01238

Stockbridge Council on Aging  
Main Street  
Stockbridge, MA 01262  
684-2000

Dalton Council on Aging  
400 Main Street  
Dalton, MA 01226

Lanesboro Council on Aging  
P.O. Box 206  
Lanesboro, MA 01237  
442-3853

Adlib, Inc.  
442 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-7047

Jewish Community Center  
235 East Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-4360



## TAXI COMPANIES

A-1 TAXI  
198 LINDEN STREET  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01201  
442-6812  
GENE SCHILLING

ABBOTT'S TAXI  
GREYLOCK STREET  
LEE, MA 01238  
JACQUELINE ABBOTT  
243-1645

AMES TAXI  
7 WESLAYAN STREET  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
RACHEL AMES  
663-3141

PARK TAXI SERVICE  
BRADLEY STREET  
LEE, MA 01238  
243-0020  
GERALDINE HUGGINS

RATHBUN'S TAXI  
P.O. BOX 629  
STOCKBRIDGE, MA 01262  
298-4848  
NANCY RATHBUN

BLUE AND WHITE TAXI  
P.O. BOX 534  
HOUSATONIC, MA 01236  
SUSAN ROCKEFFELLER  
528-0911

UNITED TAXI  
13 CHEROKEE DRIVE  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
DUANE BENTLEY  
664-6854

CB TAXI  
676 CURRAN HIGHWAY  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
GUY CARIDDI  
663-8400

COURTESY CAB  
144 WAHCONAH STREET  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01201  
JOHN CLEMONS  
443-0942

RAINBOW TAXI  
P.O. BOX 642  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01202  
ANTHONY RENZI  
447-8117

RED AND GOLD TAXI  
P.O. 534  
HOUSATONIC, MA 01236  
SUSAN ROCKEFELLER  
528-0911

VILLAGE TAXI  
5 ARNOLD STREET  
WILLIAMSTOWN, MA 01267  
KENNETH ADAMS  
458-9449

VETERAN'S TAXI  
BERKSHIRE PLAZA  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
NORMAN LISI  
663-8300



CABULANCE COMPANIES

Berkshire Cabulance  
77 Seymour Street  
P.O. Box 1292  
Pittsfield, Ma 01202  
499-3232  
Michael Wheeler

Community Corporation  
8 Castle Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01236  
528-1847  
Thomas Rathbun

County Ambulance  
510 North Street  
P.O. Box 752  
Pittsfield, MA 01202  
499-2527  
Thomas Andrews



BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY SPECIAL EFFORTS TO PROVIDE  
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED AS ASSESSED BY THE  
BERKSHIRE COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BRTA special efforts to provide transportation for the elderly and handicapped in compliance with Section 504 regulations consist of:

1. Half fares on all fixed-route buses between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. on weekdays and all day on Saturdays.
2. Kneeling feature on most of the fixed-route buses. (This feature provided for the first time with the acquisition of 10 new buses in March 1978.)
3. Wheelchair lifts on eight fixed-route buses with at least five in operation at any given time. (This feature provided for the first time July 1981.)
4. User-side subsidy program for the use of participating taxis and cabulance at half the regular fare and cabulance at 20% of regular fare (available 7 days per week).

Also, a special program to nutrition sites to replace dial-a-ride vans service in Dalton, Lanesboro and Lenox was instituted, effective July 1, 1985.

Expenditures (contract plus administrative costs) for "special effort" transportation services total approximately 20% of BRTA's total operating expenses.

During the past year, the BRTA Advisory Board established a Paratransit Committee which worked closely with Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission and BRTA staff, handicapped advocacy organizations, and consumers and adopted a "Handicapped Accessibility Plan" in compliance with Section 504 Regulations. This plan is dated June 19, 1987 and it documents the existing BRTA services for handicapped persons, proposed service modifications to improve accessibility and the Public Participation Process. The BRTA has begun implementation of the Plan.

( Quoted from the Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission Transportation Improvement Program dated October 1986.)





# TAXI TICKET PROGRAM BY YEAR

	FY '79	FY '80	FY '81	FY '82	FY '83	FY '84	FY '85	FY '86	TAXI FY '87*	CABULANCE FY '87*
PASSENGER TRIPS	5,129	15,009	28,500	76,884	84,113	107,266	117,039	99,870	124,509	5,871
ADMINISTRATION	\$11,795	\$6,161	\$31,917	\$33,779	\$25,458	\$29,523	\$34,622	\$38,816	\$63,160	\$21,599
CONTRACT	\$18,315	\$76,163	\$131,780	\$189,347	\$209,243	\$256,087	\$261,670	\$299,138	\$268,249	\$111,368
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$31,110	\$82,324	\$163,697	\$223,126	\$234,701	\$285,610	\$296,292	\$337,954	\$331,409	\$132,967
COST PER PASS.	\$6.07	\$5.48	\$5.74	\$2.90	\$2.79	\$2.66	\$2.53	\$3.38	\$2.66	\$22.65
REVENUE	\$10,951	\$36,705	\$63,411	\$97,575	\$111,450	\$134,233	\$137,782	\$138,398	\$141,330	\$21,760
REVENUE PER/PASS.	\$2.14	\$2.45	\$2.22	\$1.27	\$1.33	\$1.25	\$1.18	\$1.39	\$1.14	\$3.71
NET COST	\$19,159	\$45,619	\$100,286	\$125,551	\$123,251	\$151,377	\$158,510	\$199,556	\$190,079	\$111,207
NET COST PER/PASS.	\$3.74	\$3.04	\$3.52	\$1.63	\$1.47	\$1.41	\$1.35	\$2.00	\$1.53	\$18.94
FEDERAL ASSISTANCE	\$9,560	\$22,810	\$19,510	\$30,440	\$10,878	\$48,056	\$25,365	\$73,490	\$65,014	\$43,798
STATE ASSISTANCE	\$4,790	\$11,405	\$25,338	\$48,551	\$60,410	\$57,777	\$19,470	\$55,089	\$58,444	\$39,371
LOCAL SHARE	\$4,790	\$11,404	\$15,338	\$46,554	\$51,954	\$45,542	\$46,607	\$43,301	\$41,621	\$28,038
DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS									\$25,000	

\* AS OF FISCAL YEAR 1987, THE TAXI TICKET PROGRAM WAS OFFICIALLY SEPARATED INTO TWO SECTIONS:  
TAXI (FOR ALL HANDICAPPED AND SUBSIDIZED AT 50%) AND CABULANCE (FOR WHEELCHAIR PASST ONLY AND  
SUBSIDIZED AT 80%)



TAXI TICKET PROGRAM  
OPERATIONS REPORT BY COMMUNITY AND SERVICE

TAXI (ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED DEMAND RESPONSE)

TOWN	PASSENGERS	CONTRACT COST*	AVERAGE COST PER PASSENGER
ADAMS	3,695	\$ 6,995	\$ 1.89
CHESHIRE	0	0	0.00
CLARKSBURG	80	120	1.50
DALTON	0	0	0.00
GREAT BARRINGTON	10,585	25,714	2.43
HINSDALE	0	0	0.00
LANESBORO	0	0	0.00
LEE	3,023	10,820	3.58
LENOX	1,184	6,913	5.84
NORTH ADAMS	27,575	39,444	1.43
PITTSFIELD	76,564	172,932	2.26
STOCKBRIDGE	249	2,073	8.33
WILLIAMSTOWN	1,554	3,131	2.01
TOTAL	124,500	\$ 268,142	\$ 2.08

CABULANCE (WHEELCHAIRFAST ONLY)

TOWN	PASSENGERS	CONTRACT COST*	AVERAGE COST PER PASSENGER
ADAMS	33	1,145	\$ 30.13
CHESHIRE	20	770	0.00
CLARKSBURG	0	0	0.00
DALTON	285	5,698	19.99
GREAT BARRINGTON	130	3,630	26.30
HINSDALE	63	1,535	24.37
LANESBORO	32	510	15.94
LEE	43	1,035	24.07
LENOX	487	10,585	21.74
NORTH ADAMS	169	5,080	30.06
PITTSFIELD	4,534	71,305	15.73
STOCKBRIDGE	14	380	27.14
WILLIAMSTOWN	39	1,095	28.08
TOTAL	5,871	\$ 102,768	\$ 17.50

VAN SERVICE (NUTRITION SITES)

TOWN	PASSENGERS	CONTRACT COST*	AVERAGE COST PER PASSENGER
DALTON			
MEAL SITES	1,968	\$ 6,625	\$ 3.37
OTHER	409	1,413	3.45
LANESBORO			
MEAL SITES	2,006	6,717	3.35
OTHER	266.00	963.50	3.62
LENOX			
MEAL SITES	2,230	7,428	3.33
OTHER	49.00	194.00	3.96
TOTAL	6,928	\$ 23,340	\$ 3.37

\* Does not include Administrative costs



SUMMARY OF FUNDING SOURCES  
STATE AND FEDERAL SHARE BY SERVICE

	FIXED ROUTE	DEMAND RESPONSIVE	CAPITAL COST	TOTALS
FARE REVENUES	\$590,660	\$199,760	---	\$790,420
COMMUNITIES				
ADAMS	\$7,095	\$1,098	\$668	\$8,861
CHESHIRE	12,613	211	666	13,490
CLARKSBURG	0	11	0	11
DALTON	15,719	2,938	808	19,465
GREAT BARRINGTON	16,239	3,883	945	21,067
HINSDALE	1,875	417	127	2,419
LANESBORO	6,521	1,465	320	8,306
LEE	8,085	1,502	644	10,231
LENOX	12,434	4,980	864	18,278
NORTH ADAMS	21,537	5,825	1,662	29,024
PITTSFIELD	140,750	50,361	9,638	200,749
STOCKBRIDGE	14,448	336	712	15,496
WILLIAMSTOWN	6,954	656	393	8,003
TOTAL COMMUNITIES SHARE	264,270	73,683	17,447	355,400
MASSACHUSETTS SHARE*	371,087	103,465	77,382	551,934
FEDERAL SHARE				
UMTA SECTION 9	219,860	78,664	---	298,524
UMTA SECTION 18	192,948	36,434	---	229,382
UMTA CAPITAL	---	---	376,962	376,962
TOTAL FEDERAL SHARE	412,808	115,098	376,962	904,868
TOTALS	\$1,048,165	\$292,246	\$471,791	1,812,202

\* INCLUDES TRANSPORTATION BOND ISSUE



# STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

For the Year Ended June 30, 1987

## Operating Revenues

Fare Revenue:			
Fixed Route	\$	590,660	
Demand response		174,760	\$ 765,420
Interest Income			28,762
Other Income			0
Total Operating Income			\$ 794,182

## Operating Expenses

Transportation Contracts:			
Fixed Route	\$	1,480,086	
Demand Response		402,957	\$ 1,883,043
Administrative Salaries			60,220
Professional & Technical Services			27,506
Public Relations			14,212
Printing			5,074
General Insurance & Accident Claims			8,982
Pension & Group Insurance			26,037
Travel & Meetings			616
Office Supplies & Expense			4,171
Utilities & Maintenance			40,844
Telephone			4,357
Interest Expense			73,343
Miscellaneous			11,188
Total Operating Expenses			\$ 2,159,593

Net Cost Of Service \$ 1,365,411

Federal Assistance	\$	527,906	
State Assistance		474,552	
Local Assistance		337,953	
Special Fare Assistance Grant		25,000	
			\$ 1,365,411





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# BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

67 DOWNING PARKWAY  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01201

ANNUAL REPORT  
JULY 1, 1987 - JUNE 30, 1988

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS  
COLLECTION

OCT 19 1990

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## INTRODUCTION

### Description of the Organization of the Authority

The Berkshire Regional Authority was organized in 1974 in response to the need for public transportation in Berkshire County. The original communities of Dalton, Pittsfield, Lanesboro, Lee, Lenox, Richmond, and Hinsdale formed the nucleus of a transportation system which now also includes the towns of Stockbridge, Great Barrington, Cheshire, Adams, Williamstown, Clarksburg, and the City of North Adams.

The Authority's governing body is its Advisory Board which is made up of the "Chief-Elected Official" from each community. "From time to time", the Chief-Elected official may appoint a delegate to serve in his or her place.

The activities of the Authority are managed by an Administrator who is appointed by the Advisory Board and is responsible for the administration of the Transit Authority.

Since the enabling statute (M.G.L. 161B) prohibits the Authority from actually operating, it must contract with private companies to operate its mass transit services. Most of the capital equipment is provided by the Authority for the operations.

American Transit Corporation, headquartered in St. Louis, MO. operated the fixed route service for the Authority during this fiscal year.

The Berkshire Regional Transit Authority also contracts with 18 social service agencies, 13 taxi companies and 2 cabulance companies to provide discounted rides for the elderly and handicapped.

On the following pages is an organizational chart showing the structure of the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority.





BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
ADVISORY BOARD

ADMINISTRATOR

DEMAND  
RESPONSE  
TAXI  
TICKET  
PROGRAM

FIXED  
ROUTE  
AMERICAN  
TRANSIT  
CORPORATION

TELEPHONE  
INFORMATION

OFFICE  
MANAGER

CABULANCE

TAXI

VANS





## BOARD MEMBERS

### COMMUNITY

Pittsfield

Adams

Cheshire

Clarksburg

Dalton

Great Barrington

Hinsdale

Lanesboro

Lee

Lenox

North Adams

Richmond

Stockbridge

Williamstown

### BOARD MEMBER

Karl Hekler (Chairman)

George Haddad

Frank Polastri

Douglas Wood

Eugene Clark

Edward Morehouse

Jeanne Carmel

Lawrence Healy

Christopher Salinetti

Wharton Barker

Philip Pugliese

Douglas E. Chapman

John Cronson

Michael Muzyka



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND GOALS

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY '88

During Fiscal Year 1988 (July 1, 1987 - June 30, 1988), the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority had several major accomplishments:

1. The purchase of a wheelchair equipped buses;
2. A contract for the installation of bus shelters was awarded;
3. The completion of the bus rehabilitation plan;
4. The purchase of a supervisory vehicle;
5. The implementation of new handicapped guidelines and new identification cards;
6. The formation of a 'Citizen's handicapped Advisory Committee'.

### GOALS FY '89

During Fiscal Year 1989, the BRTA hopes to accomplish the following:

1. The installation of bus shelters throughout the service area;
2. The installation of an updated phone system;
3. Study and possible implementation of fare increase;
4. Request for proposals and award of contract for management services;
5. The purchase and installation of new fare boxes in all the buses;



## FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

### HISTORICAL RIDERSHIP

A look at the historical ridership for the FY'76 - FY'88 period shows a general upward trend for the nine year span. Average daily ridership has increased from approximately 1,100 passengers per day in FY'76 to 3,900 in FY'88

### CURRENT RIDERSHIP

The fixed route ridership for FY'88 was 1,183,176.

### OPERATIONS

Fare revenue in Fy '88 for the fixed route operations were \$554,208 as compared with FY'87 revenues of \$590,660. This represented a decrease in fixed route revenue of 6.2%. American Transit Corporation is the management company for our fixed route transportation contracts. The fixed route contract cost for FY'88 was \$1,428,668 versus \$1,480,086 in FY'87. This represented a 3.5% decrease in the cost of the fixed route contract.

Further detailed information on revenues and expenses can be found in the Financial Statements at the back of this report.



## FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

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## FY'88 FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

	ELM/ COLTSVILLE	DALTON/ HINSDALE	CHAPMAN CORNERS	PITTSFIELD GREAT BARRINGTON	CRANE AVE BCC
PASSENGERS	238,222	132,794	72,697	213,065	108,060
TOTAL HOURS	6,955	6,815	3,700	11,906	3,347
REVENUE HOURS	6,807	6,310	3,573	10,614	3,265
TOTAL MILES	90,735	115,450	56,538	255,005	45,794
REVENUE MILES	88,002	107,988	52,512	247,380	43,903
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE HOUR	35.00	21.04	20.35	20.07	33.09
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE MILE	2.71	1.23	1.38	0.86	2.46
TOTAL COST	\$209,310	\$207,741	\$111,321	\$358,413	\$100,814
REVENUE	\$82,008	61,565	26,118	129,730	35,225
NET COST	\$127,302	\$146,176	\$85,203	\$228,683	\$65,589
COST PER PASSENGER	\$0.879	\$1.564	\$1.531	\$1.682	\$0.933
REVENUE PER PASSENGER	\$0.344	\$0.464	\$0.359	\$0.609	\$0.326
TOTAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	0.534	1.101	1.172	1.073	0.607
FEDERAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	45,310 \$0.190	52,028 \$0.392	30,328 \$0.417	81,394 \$0.382	23,345 \$0.216
STATE SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	47,712 \$0.200	54,786 \$0.413	31,934 \$0.439	85,711 \$0.402	24,582 \$0.227
LOCAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	34,280 \$0.144	39,362 \$0.296	22,941 \$0.316	61,578 \$0.289	17,662 \$0.163
PERCENTAGE OF COSTS RECOVERED BY FARES	39.18%	29.64%	23.46%	36.20%	34.94%



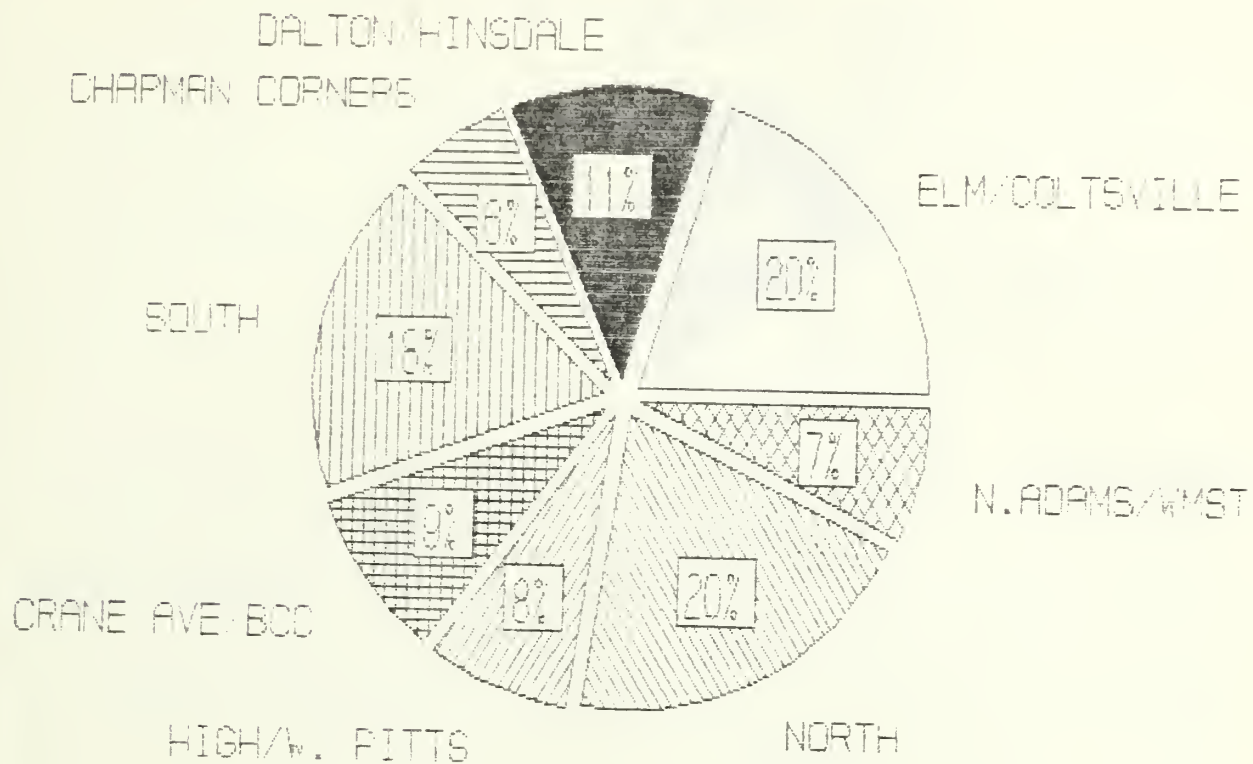
## FY '88 FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

	HIGHLAND WEST PITTSFIELD	NORTH ROUTE	NORTH ADAMS WILLIAMSTOWN	TOTALS
PASSENGERS	92,833	238,017	84,992	1,180,680
TOTAL HOURS	3,754	11,860	3,659	51,995
REVENUE HOURS	3,648	11,114	3,049	48,380
TOTAL MILES	56,132	242,902	62,403	924,958
REVENUE MILES	53,387	226,477	56,928	876,577
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE HOUR	25.45	21.42	27.88	24.40
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE MILE	1.74	1.05	1.49	1.35
TOTAL COST	\$113,043	\$357,003	\$110,220	\$1,567,865
REVENUE	32,372	150,067	37,123	\$554,208
NET COST	\$80,671	\$206,936	\$73,097	\$1,013,657
COST PER PASSENGER	\$1.218	\$1.500	\$1.297	\$1.328
REVENUE PER PASSENGER	\$0.349	\$0.630	\$0.437	\$0.469
TOTAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	0.869	0.869	0.860	0.859
FEDERAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	28,713 \$0.309	73,654 \$0.309	26,017 \$0.306	360,789 \$0.306
STATE SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	30,235 \$0.326	77,559 \$0.326	27,397 \$0.322	379,916 \$0.322
LOCAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	21,723 \$0.234	55,723 \$0.234	19,683 \$0.232	272,952 \$0.231
PERCENTAGE OF COSTS RECOVERED BY FARES	28.64%	42.04%	33.68%	35.35%



# FY'88 FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

PASSENGERS BY ROUTE

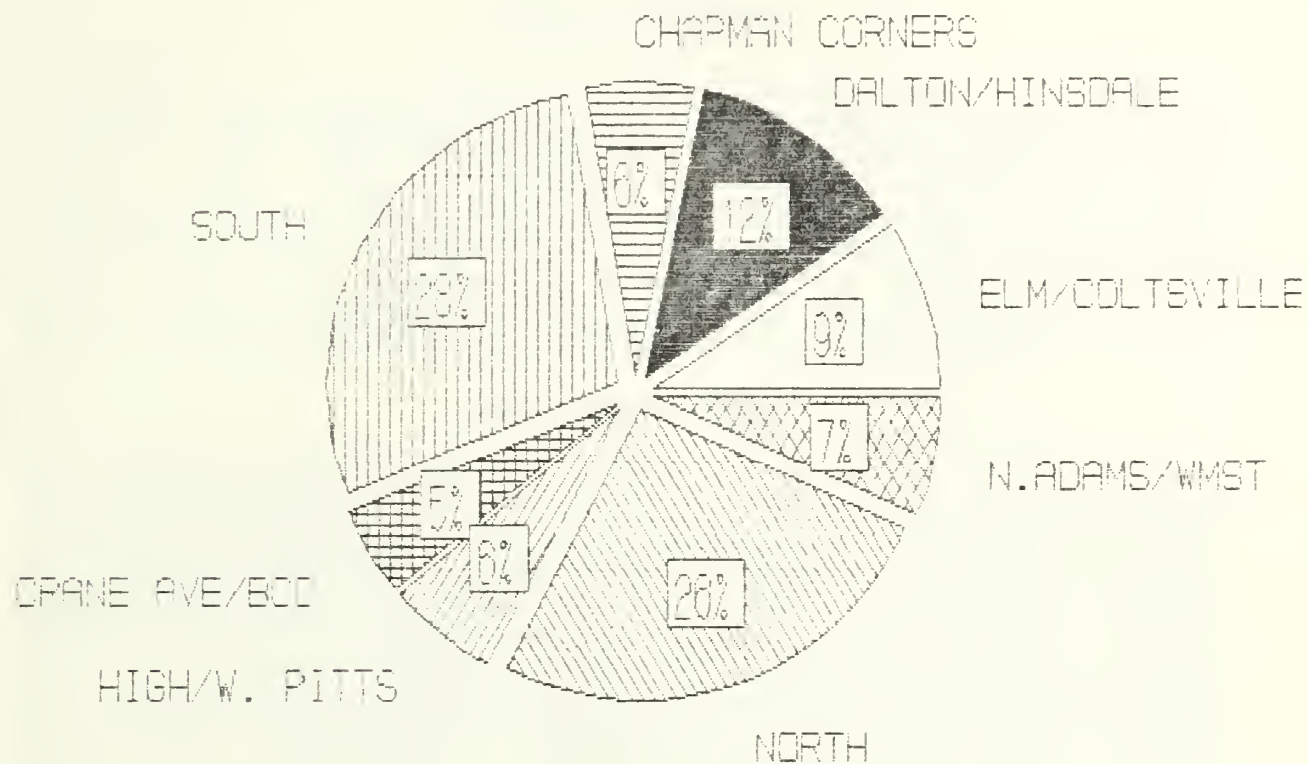


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# FY'88 FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

REVENUE BY ROUTE









## ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED SERVICES

### SCOPE OF SERVICES

In addition to the regular fixed route transit buses, the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (BRTA) also provides other services in keeping with the Urban Mass Transportation Administration regulations which require "special efforts" to make transit services accessible to those with special needs, namely the elderly and handicapped. Not only are there reduced fares for the elderly and handicapped on the fixed route buses, but the BRTA also provides user side subsidy for taxi cab rides and private chaircar operators. The Authority also has in service eight GMC RTS II buses, with wheelchair lifts, for use by the handicapped.

### TAXI TICKET PROGRAM

The Berkshire Regional Transit Authority, as part of its "special effort", offers reduced fare tickets for the elderly and handicapped. This service consists of reduced-fare tickets used to purchase transportation from taxi and cabulance companies. The tickets are available through social service agencies throughout the county (see list). The various agencies purchase tickets from the BRTA at a reduced cost (50% for taxi tickets, 20% for Cabulance tickets). The agency then sells them to their eligible clients in accordance with the agency's policies. The clients then use the tickets to purchase rides with local taxi cabs or, in the case of those persons confined to a wheelchair, from private chair car operators in their communities (see list). The private owners then redeem the tickets with the BRTA for their full value. The program was expanded late in FY'81 to include Williamstown, North Adams and Great Barrington. The town of Stockbridge was added in May of FY'82. Clarksburg was added in July of 1986.

The program has been successful in meeting the transportation needs of the elderly and handicapped, especially in light of cut-backs in transportation funds by other social agencies.

The total number of passengers using taxis during FY'88 was 91,769 as compared with 124,509 for FY'87. The total number of passengers using cabulances during FY'88 was 7,042 as compared with 5,871 during FY'87. Further information is available on the following pages.



BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY SPECIAL EFFORTS TO PROVIDE  
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED AS ASSESSED BY THE  
BERKSHIRE COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

BRTA special efforts to provide transportation for the elderly and handicapped in compliance with Section 504 regulations consist of:

1. Half fares on all fixed-route buses between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. on weekdays and all day on Saturdays.
2. Kneeling feature on most of the fixed-route buses. (This feature provided for the first time with the acquisition of 10 new buses in March 1978.)
3. Wheelchair lifts on eight fixed-route buses with at least five in operation at any given time. (This feature provided for the first time July 1981.)
4. User-side subsidy program for the use of participating taxis and cabulance at half the regular fare and cabulance at 20% of regular fare (available 7 days per week).

Also, a special program to nutrition sites to replace dial-a-ride vans service in Dalton, Lanesboro and Lenox was instituted, effective July 1, 1985.

Expenditures (contract plus administrative costs) for "special effort" transportation services total approximately 20% of BRTA's total operating expenses.

During the past year, the BRTA Advisory Board established a Paratransit Committee which worked closely with Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission and BRTA staff, handicapped advocacy organizations, and consumers and adopted a "Handicapped Accessibility Plan" in compliance with Section 504 Regulations. This plan is dated June 19, 1987 and it documents the existing BRTA services for handicapped persons, proposed



## TAXI TICKET AGENCIES

Berkshire Mental Health  
333 East Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
499-0412

Lenox Council on Aging  
85 Walker Street  
Lenox, MA 01247  
637-2948

Berkshire County Association for  
Retarded Citizens  
52 Deming Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
499-4241

Great Barrington Council on Aging  
909 Castle Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230  
528-1881

Berkshire Medical Center  
741 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
443-3531

Adams Council on Aging  
P.O. Box 255  
East Street  
Adams, MA 01220  
743-4035

United Cerebral Palsy  
46 Summer Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-1562

North Adams Council on Aging  
Ashland Street  
North Adams, MA 01247  
663-7391

Berkshire Benevolent Association  
for the Blind  
P.O. Box 778  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-3450

Williamstown Council on Aging  
Harper Court  
118 Church Street  
Williamstown, MA 01267  
458-8250

Pittsfield Council on Aging  
33 Bradford Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
447-7374

Lee Council on Aging  
Town Hall  
Lee, MA 01238

Stockbridge Council on Aging  
Main Street  
Stockbridge, MA 01262  
684-2000

Dalton Council on Aging  
400 Main Street  
Dalton, MA 01226

Lanesboro Council on Aging  
P.O. Box 206  
Lanesboro, MA 01237  
442-3853

Adlib, Inc.  
442 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-7047

Jewish Community Center  
235 East Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-4360





## TAXI COMPANIES

A-1 TAXI  
198 LINDEN STREET  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01201  
442-6812  
GENE SCHILLING

ABBOTT'S TAXI  
GREYLOCK STREET  
LEE, MA 01238  
JACQUELINE ABBOTT  
243-1645

AMES TAXI  
7 WESLAYAN STREET  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
RACHEL AMES  
663-3141

PARK TAXI SERVICE  
BRADLEY STREET  
LEE, MA 01238  
243-0020  
GERALDINE HUGGINS

RATHBUN'S TAXI  
P.O. BOX 629  
STOCKBRIDGE, MA 01262  
298-4848  
NANCY RATHBUN

BLUE AND WHITE TAXI  
P.O. BOX 534  
HOUSATONIC, MA 01236  
SUSAN ROCKEFELLER  
528-0911

UNITED TAXI  
13 CHEROKEE DRIVE  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
DUANE BENTLEY  
664-6854

CB TAXI  
676 CURRAN HIGHWAY  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
GUY CARIDDI  
663-8400

COURTESY CAB  
144 WAHCONAH STREET  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01201  
JOHN CLEMONS  
443-0942

RAINBOW TAXI  
P.O. BOX 642  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01202  
ANTHONY RENZI  
447-8117

RED AND GOLD TAXI  
P.O. 534  
HOUSATONIC, MA 01236  
SUSAN ROCKEFELLER  
528-0911

VILLAGE TAXI  
5 ARNOLD STREET  
WILLIAMSTOWN, MA 01267  
KENNETH ADAMS  
458-9449

VETERAN'S TAXI  
BERKSHIRE PLAZA  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
NORMAN LISI  
663-8300





# CABULANCE COMPANIES

Berkshire Cabulance  
77 Seymour Street  
P.O. Box 1292  
Pittsfield, Ma 01202  
499-3232  
Michael Wheeler

County Ambulance  
510 North Street  
P.O. Box 752  
Pittsfield, MA 01202  
499-2527  
Thomas Andrews

Community Corporation  
8 Castle Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01236  
528-1847  
Thomas Rathbun



# TAXI TICKET PROGRAM BY YEAR

	FY'81	FY'82	FY'83	FY'84	FY'85	FY'86	TAXI FY'87*	CABULANCE FY'87*	TAXI FY'88*	CABULANCE FY'88*
PASSENGER TRIPS	28,500	76,884	84,113	107,266	117,039	99,870	124,509	5,871	91,769	7,042
ADMINISTRATION	\$31,917	\$33,779	\$25,458	\$29,523	\$34,622	\$38,816	\$63,160	\$21,599	\$61,722	\$39,414
CONTRACT	\$131,780	\$189,347	\$209,243	\$256,087	\$261,670	\$299,138	\$268,249	\$111,368	\$249,315	\$126,386
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$163,697	\$223,126	\$234,701	\$285,610	\$296,292	\$337,954	\$331,409	\$132,967	\$311,037	\$165,800
COST PER PASS.	\$5.74	\$2.90	\$2.79	\$2.66	\$2.53	\$3.38	\$2.66	\$22.65	\$3.39	\$23.54
REVENUE	\$63,411	\$97,575	\$111,450	\$134,233	\$137,782	\$138,398	\$141,330	\$21,760	\$128,631	\$27,344
REVENUE PER/PASS.	\$2.22	\$1.27	\$1.33	\$1.25	\$1.18	\$1.39	\$1.14	\$3.71	\$1.40	\$3.68
NET COST	\$100,286	\$125,551	\$123,251	\$151,377	\$158,510	\$199,556	\$190,079	\$111,207	\$182,406	\$138,456
NET COST PER/PASS.	\$3.52	\$1.63	\$1.47	\$1.41	\$1.35	\$2.00	\$1.53	\$18.94	\$1.99	\$19.66
FEDERAL ASSISTANCE	\$49,610	\$30,446	\$10,878	\$48,058	\$25,365	\$73,490	\$65,014	\$43,798	\$56,025	\$49,280
STATE ASSISTANCE	\$25,338	\$48,551	\$60,419	\$57,777	\$19,470	\$55,089	\$58,444	\$39,371	\$58,995	\$51,893
LOCAL SHARE	\$25,338	\$46,554	\$51,954	\$45,542	\$46,607	\$43,301	\$41,621	\$28,038	\$42,386	\$37,283
DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS							\$25,000		\$25,000	

\* AS OF FISCAL YEAR 1987, THE TAXI TICKET PROGRAM WAS OFFICIALLY SEPARATED INTO TWO SECTIONS:  
TAXI (FOR ALL HANDICAPPED AND SUBSIDIZED AT 50%) AND CABULANCE (FOR WHEELCHAIR FAST ONLY AND  
SUBSIDIZED AT 80%)



TAXI TICKET PROGRAM  
OPERATIONS REPORT BY COMMUNITY AND SERVICE

TAXI (ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED DEMAND RESPONSE)

TOWN	PASSENGERS	CONTRACT COST*	AVERAGE COST PER PASSENGER
ADAMS	796	\$ 1,870	\$ 2.35
CHESHIRE	0	0	0.00
CLARKSBURG	0	0	0.00
DALTON	0	0	0.00
GREAT BARRINGTON	5,811	25,339	4.36
HINSDALE	0	0	0.00
LANESBORO	0	0	0.00
LEE	2,116	9,319	4.40
LENOX	960	6,396	6.66
NORTH ADAMS	29,065	42,863	1.47
PITTSFIELD	52,726	159,929	3.03
STOCKBRIDGE	200	1,483	7.42
WILLIAMSTOWN	95	309	3.25
TOTAL	91,769	\$ 247,506	\$ 2.70

CABULANCE (WHEELCHAIRFAST ONLY)

TOWN	PASSENGERS	CONTRACT COST*	AVERAGE COST PER PASSENGER
ADAMS	194	\$ 5,260	\$ 27.11
CHESHIRE	23	585	0.00
CLARKSBURG	24	840	0.00
DALTON	302	6,680	22.12
GREAT BARRINGTON	122	2,560	20.98
HINSDALE	34	870	25.59
LANESBORO	59	1,495	25.34
LEE	69	1,330	19.28
LENOX	782	16,395	20.97
NORTH ADAMS	33	1,120	33.94
PITTSFIELD	5,179	80,250	15.50
STOCKBRIDGE	26	795	30.58
WILLIAMSTOWN	105	2,320	22.10
NON-RESIDENTS	90	1,380	15.33
TOTAL	7,042	\$ 121,880	\$ 17.31

VAN SERVICE (NUTRITION SITES)

TOWN	PASSENGERS	CONTRACT COST*	AVERAGE COST PER PASSENGER
DALTON			
MEAL SITES	1,535	\$ 5,372	\$ 3.50
OTHER	364	1,325	3.64
LANESBORO			
MEAL SITES	1,594	5,579	3.50
OTHER	292	1022.00	3.50
LENOX			
MEAL SITES	2,081	7,283	3.50
OTHER	40.00	139.00	3.48
TOTAL	5,906	\$ 20,720	\$ 3.51

\* Does not include Administrative costs



SUMMARY OF FUNDING SOURCES  
STATE AND FEDERAL SHARE BY SERVICE

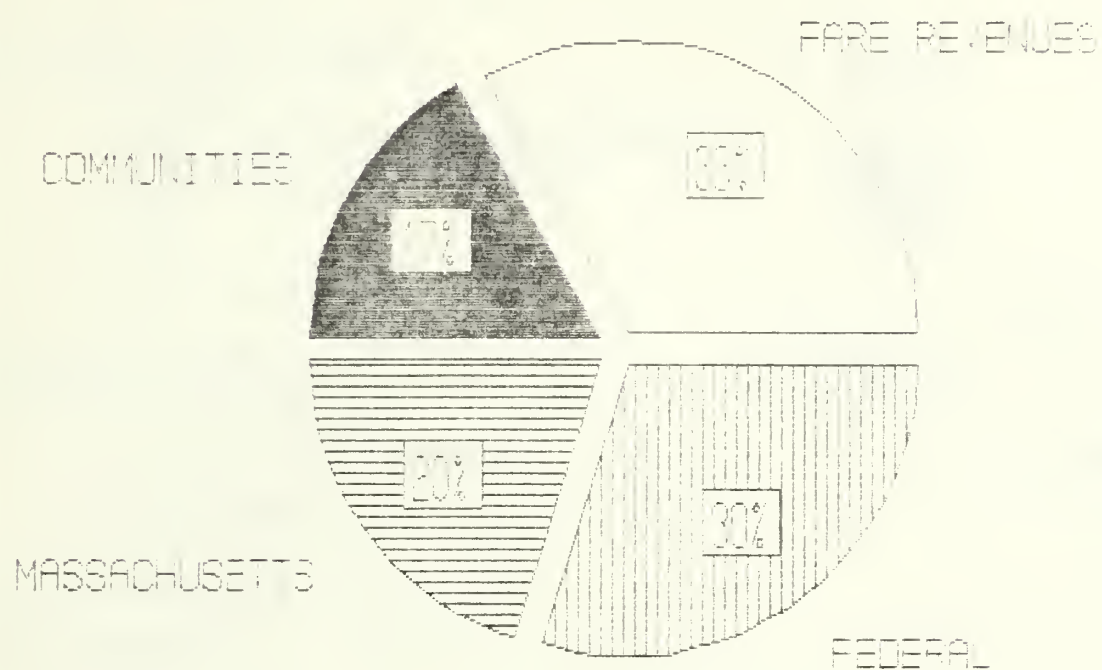
	FIXED ROUTE	DEMAND RESPONSIVE	CAPITAL COST	TOTALS
FARE REVENUES	\$554,208	\$165,590	---	\$719,798
COMMUNITIES				
ADAMS	\$7,334	\$1,840	\$199	\$9,373
CHESHIRE	12,919	179	199	13,297
CLARKSBURG	0	257	0	257
DALTON	16,020	4,130	241	20,391
GREAT BARRINGTON	17,067	3,867	282	21,216
HINSDALE	1,904	265	37	2,206
LANESBORO	6,673	2,518	95	9,286
LEE	8,815	1,538	192	10,545
LENOX	13,323	8,526	258	22,107
NORTH ADAMS	22,310	5,554	496	28,360
PITTSFIELD	144,468	56,287	2,876	203,631
STOCKBRIDGE	14,950	423	212	15,585
WILLIAMSTOWN	7,169	744	118	8,031
TOTAL COMMUNITIES SHARE	272,952	86,128	5,205	364,285
MASSACHUSETTS SHARE*	379,916	119,878	36,914	536,708
FEDERAL SHARE				
UMTA SECTION 9	190,959	74,399	---	265,358
UMTA SECTION 18	169,830	39,443	---	209,273
UMTA CAPITAL	---	---	168,475	168,475
TOTAL FEDERAL SHARE	360,789	113,842	168,475	643,106
TOTALS	\$1,013,657	\$319,848	\$210,594	1,544,099

\* INCLUDES TRANSPORTATION BOND ISSUE





# SUMMARY OF FUNDING SOURCES





# BALANCE SHEET

As of June 30, 1988

## ASSETS

### Current Assets

Cash and Short-term Investments	\$	499,639	
Accounts Receivable			
Urban Mass Transportation Administration		492,508	
Commonwealth of Massachusetts		505,000	
Member communities		364,285	
Other		58,265	
Total Current Assets			\$ 1,919,697

Property and Equipment	\$	4,811,726	
Less Accumulated Depreciation		2,413,538	
Net Property and Equipment			\$ 2,398,188

Total Assets			\$ 4,317,885
--------------	--	--	--------------

## LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

### Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$	92,611	
Accrued Interest and Other Liabilities		71,568	
Unredeemed Taxi, Van and Cabulance Tickets		34,200	
Notes Payable		1,725,000	
Total Liabilities			\$ 1,923,379

EQUITY - CONTRIBUTED CAPITAL	\$	2,394,506	
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Total Equity			\$ 2,394,506
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Total Liabilities and Equity			\$ 4,317,885
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# STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

For the Year Ended June 30, 1988

## Operating Revenues

Fare Revenue:			
Fixed Route	\$	554,208	
Demand response		165,590	\$ 719,798
Interest Income			36,529
Other Income			0
Total Operating Income			\$ 756,327

## Operating Expenses

Transportation Contracts:			
Fixed Route	\$	1,428,668	
Demand Response		394,931	\$ 1,823,599
Administrative Salaries			66,228
Professional & Technical Services			31,476
Public Relations			14,744
Printing			5,585
General Insurance & Accident Claims			11,556
Pension & Group Insurance			29,954
Travel & Meetings			994
Office Supplies & Expense			3,198
Utilities & Maintenance			38,668
Telephone			4,036
Interest Expense			80,895
Miscellaneous			3,899
Total Operating Expenses			\$ 2,114,832

Net Cost Of Service \$ 1,358,505

Federal Assistance	\$	474,631	
State Assistance		444,794	
Local Assistance		359,080	
Accessibility Improvement Program		55,000	
Special Fare Assistance Grant		25,000	
			\$ 1,358,505



# BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

67 DOWNING PARKWAY  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01201

ANNUAL REPORT  
JULY 1, 1988 - JUNE 30, 1989

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT  
COLLECTION

OCT 19 1990

University of Massachusetts  
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OF  
THE  
ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND  
VOLUME 111 PART 1 2011





## INTRODUCTION

### Description of the Organization of the Authority

The Berkshire Regional Authority was organized in 1974 in response to the need for public transportation in Berkshire County. The original communities of Dalton, Pittsfield, Lanesboro, Lee, Lenox, Richmond, and Hinsdale formed the nucleus of a transportation system which now includes the towns of Stockbridge, Great Barrington, Cheshire, Adams, Williamstown, Clarksburg, and the City of North Adams.

The Authority's governing body is its Advisory Board which is made up of the "Chief-Elected Official" from each community. "From time to time", the Chief-Elected official may appoint a delegate to serve in his or her place.

The activities of the Authority are managed by an Administrator who is appointed by the Advisory Board and is responsible for the administration of the Transit Authority.

Since the enabling statute prohibits the Authority from actually operating services, it must contract with private companies to operate its mass transit services. Capital equipment is provided by the Authority for the operations.

During Fiscal year '89 (July 1, 1988 - June 30, 1989), the Berkshire Division of American Transit Corporation was the management firm hired by the Authority to operate its fixed route service.

The Berkshire Regional Transit Authority also has contracts with 17 social service agencies, 14 taxi companies and 2 cabulance companies to provide discounted rides for the elderly and handicapped.

On the following pages is an organizational chart showing the structure of the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority.



BERKSHIRE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
ADVISORY BOARD

ADMINISTRATOR

DEMAND  
RESPONSE  
TAXI  
TICKET  
PROGRAM

FIXED  
ROUTE  
AMERICAN  
TRANSIT  
CORPORATION

TELEPHONE  
INFORMATION

OFFICE  
MANAGER

CABULANCE

TAXI

VANS



## BOARD MEMBERS

### COMMUNITY

Pittsfield

Great Barrington

Lenox

Lee

North Adams

Stockbridge

Dalton

Adams

Lanesboro

Williamstown

Hinsdale

Cheshire

Richmond

Clarksburg

### BOARD MEMBER

Karl Hekler (Chairman)

Edward Morehouse

Wharton Barker

Christopher Salinetti

Philip Pugliese

John Cronson

Eugene Clark

George Haddad

Lawrence Healy

Michael Muzyka

Jeanne Carmel

Frank Polastri

Douglas Chapman

Michael Wood



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND GOALS

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY '89

During Fiscal Year 1989 (July 1, 1988 - June 30, 1989), the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority had several major accomplishments:

1. Bus shelters were installed throughout the BRTA service area;
2. The BRTA, in conjunction with a local radio station, ran a two week "Gifts for Kids" campaign.
3. A new phone system was installed;
4. Requests for Proposals for management services were sent out and the contract was awarded to American Transit Corporation, St. Louis, MO.
5. New fare boxes were installed in all the buses

### GOALS FY'90

During Fiscal Year 1990, the BRTA hopes to accomplish the following:

1. The implementation of a fare increase effective July 1, 1989.





## FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

### HISTORICAL RIDERSHIP

A look at the historical ridership for the FY'76 - FY'89 period shows a general upward trend for several years followed by an industry-wide decrease in ridership.. Average daily ridership was approximately 1,100 passengers per day in FY'76 and 3,900 in FY'89

### CURRENT RIDERSHIP

The fixed route ridership for FY'89 was 1,076,836.

### OPERATIONS

Fare revenue in Fy '89 for the fixed route operations were \$539,441 as compared with FY'88 revenues of \$554,208. This represented a decrease in fixed route revenue of 2.7%. American Transit Corporation is the management company for our fixed route transportation contracts. The fixed route contract cost for FY'89 was \$1,780,644 versus \$1,567,865 in FY'88. This represented a 13.57% increase in the cost of the fixed route contract.

Further detailed information on revenues and expenses can be found in the Financial Statements at the back of this report.



FY'89 FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

	ELM/ COLTSVILLE	DALTON/ HINSDALE	CHAPMAN CORNERS	PITTSFIELD GREAT BARRINGTON	CRANE AVE BCC
PASSENGERS	195,693	115,573	60,822	199,277	99,892
TOTAL HOURS	6,899	6,894	3,675	11,898	3,346
REVENUE HOURS	6,855	6,773	3,477	11,569	3,310
TOTAL MILES	92,363	107,957	61,664	261,164	51,588
REVENUE MILES	85,717	102,971	49,715	247,380	42,811
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE HOUR	28.55	17.06	17.49	17.23	30.18
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE MILE	2.28	1.12	1.22	0.81	2.33
TOTAL COST	\$241,277	\$220,265	\$128,384	\$416,136	\$116,988
REVENUE	\$86,720	52,361	21,070	125,034	31,007
NET COST	\$154,557	\$167,904	\$107,314	\$291,102	\$85,981
COST PER PASSENGER	\$1.233	\$1.906	\$2.111	\$2.088	\$1.171
REVENUE PER PASSENGER	\$0.443	\$0.453	\$0.346	\$0.627	\$0.310
TOTAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	0.790	1.453	1.764	1.461	0.861
FEDERAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	72,653 \$0.371	78,927 \$0.683	50,445 \$0.829	136,840 \$0.687	40,417 \$0.405
STATE SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	47,269 \$0.242	51,351 \$0.444	32,821 \$0.540	89,028 \$0.447	26,296 \$0.263
LOCAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	34,635 \$0.177	37,626 \$0.326	24,048 \$0.395	65,234 \$0.327	19,268 \$0.193
PERCENTAGE OF COSTS RECOVERED BY FARES	35.94%	23.77%	16.41%	30.05%	26.50%



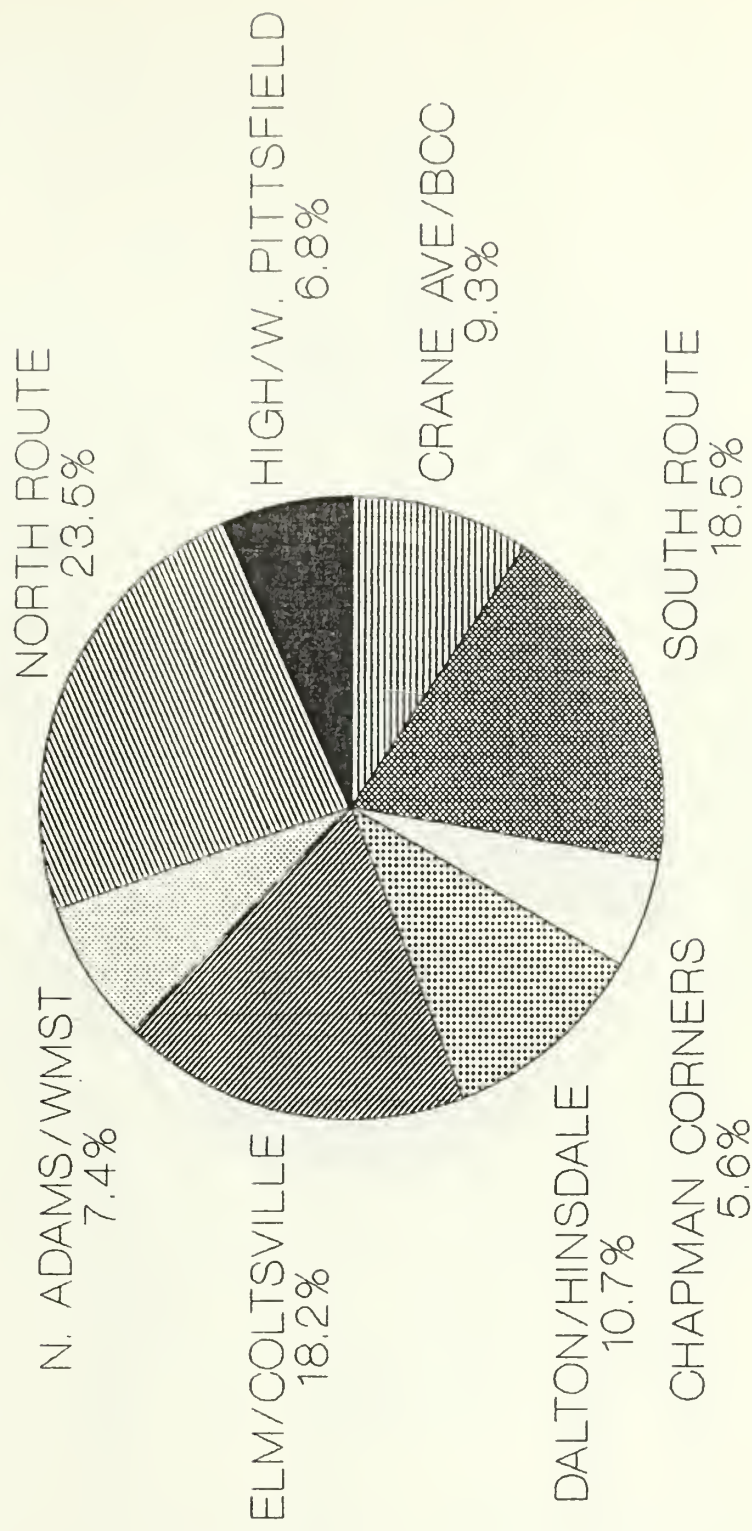
## FY'89 FIXED ROUTE OPERATIONS

	HIGHLAND WEST PITTSFIELD	NORTH ROUTE	NORTH ADAMS WILLIAMSTOWN	TOTALS
--	--------------------------------	----------------	--------------------------------	--------

PASSENGERS	73,453	252,590	79,536	1,076,836
TOTAL HOURS	3,751	11,988	3,699	52,150
REVENUE HOURS	3,626	11,849	3,370	50,828
TOTAL MILES	64,644	240,232	78,865	958,476
REVENUE MILES	51,019	232,107	53,983	865,703
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE HOUR	20.26	21.32	23.60	21.19
PASSENGERS PER REVENUE MILE	1.44	1.09	1.47	1.24
TOTAL COST	\$131,056	\$397,263	\$129,275	\$1,780,644
REVENUE	24,815	161,621	36,813	\$539,441
NET COST	\$106,241	\$235,642	\$92,462	\$1,241,203
COST PER PASSENGER	\$1.784	\$1.573	\$1.625	\$1.654
REVENUE PER PASSENGER	\$0.338	\$0.640	\$0.463	\$0.501
TOTAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	1.446	0.933	1.163	1.153
FEDERAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	49,941 \$0.680	110,770 \$0.439	43,463 \$0.546	583,456 \$0.542
STATE SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	32,492 \$0.442	72,067 \$0.285	28,279 \$0.356	379,603 \$0.353
LOCAL SUBSIDY PER PASSENGER	23,808 \$0.324	52,805 \$0.209	20,720 \$0.261	278,144 \$0.258
PERCENTAGE OF COSTS RECOVERED BY FARES	18.93%	40.68%	28.48%	30.29%



# FY'89 FIXED ROUTE OPERATION PASSENGERS BY ROUTE





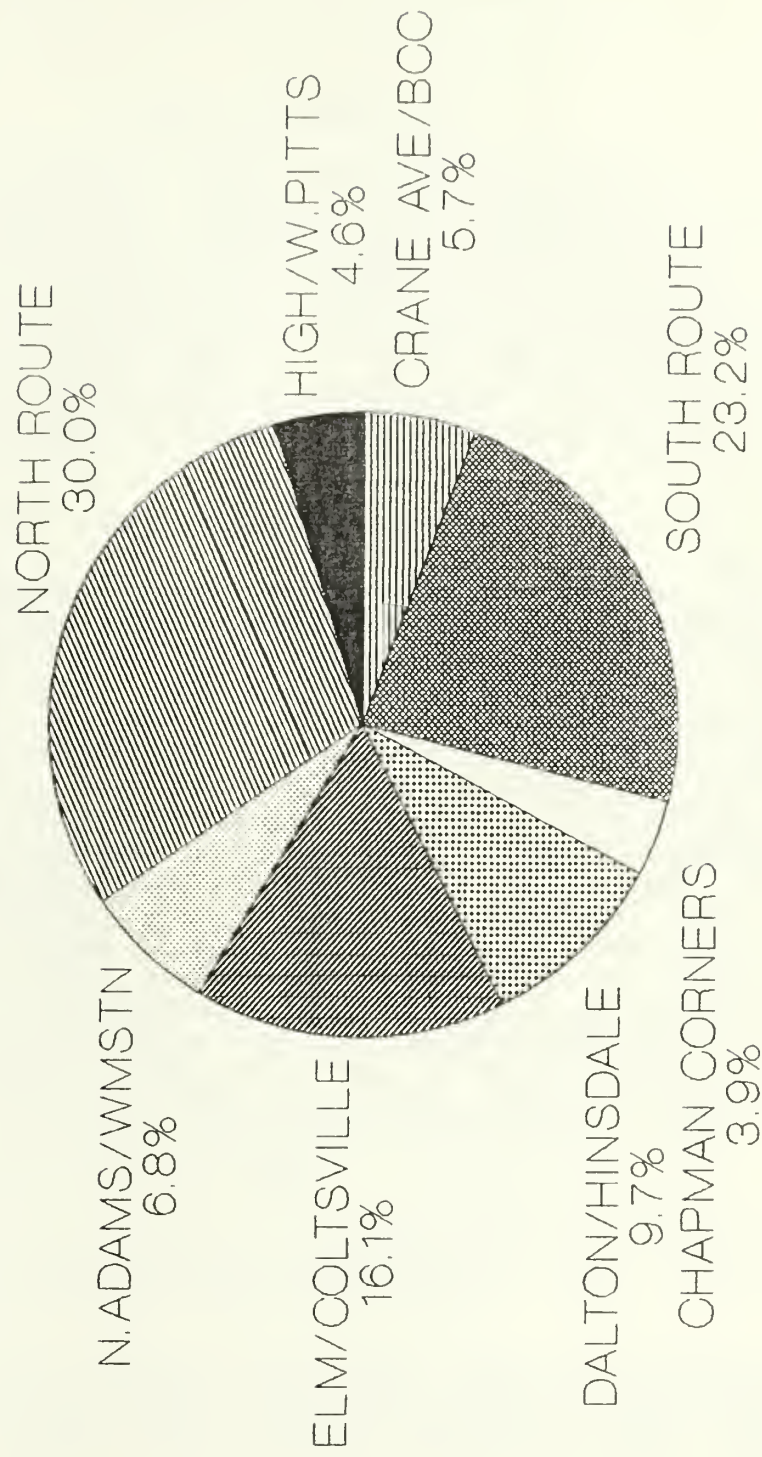
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# FY'89 FIXED ROUTE OPERATION REVENUE BY ROUTE





## ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED SERVICES

### SCOPE OF SERVICES

In addition to the regular fixed route transit buses, the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (BRTA) also provides other services in keeping with the Urban Mass Transportation Administration regulations which require "special efforts" to make transit services accessible to those with special needs, namely the elderly and handicapped. Not only are there reduced fares for the elderly and handicapped on the fixed route buses, but the BRTA also provided user side subsidy for taxi cab rides and private chaircar operators. The Authority also has in service nine GMC RTS II buses, with wheelchair lifts, for use by the handicapped.

### TAXI TICKET PROGRAM

The Berkshire Regional Transit Authority, as part of its "special effort", offers reduced fare tickets for the elderly and handicapped. This service consists of reduced-fare tickets used to purchase transportation from taxi and cabulance companies. The tickets are available through social service agencies throughout the county (see list). The various agencies purchase tickets from the BRTA at a reduced cost (50% for taxi tickets, 20% for Cabulance tickets). The agency then sells them to eligible clients in accordance with the BRTA policies. Handicapped persons must have a Commonwealth of Massachusetts Transportation Access Pass in order to purchase tickets. Non-handicapped elders are limited as to the number of tickets they may purchase in a week. The clients then use the tickets to purchase rides with local taxi cabs or, in the case of those persons confined to a wheelchair, from private chair car operators in their communities (see list). The private owners then redeem the tickets with the BRTA for their full value. The program was expanded late in FY'81 to include Williamstown, North Adams and Great Barrington. The town of Stockbridge was added in May of FY'82. Clarksburg was added in June of 1986.

The program has been successful in meeting the transportation needs of the elderly and handicapped, especially in light of cut-backs in transportation funds by other social agencies.

The total number of passengers using taxis during FY'89 was 82,175 as compared with 91,769 for FY'88. The total number of passengers using cabulances during FY'89 was 9,031 as compared with 7,042 during FY'88. Further information is available on the following pages.



## TAXI TICKET AGENCIES

Berkshire Mental Health  
333 East Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
499-0412

Berkshire County Association for  
Retarded Citizens  
52 Deming Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
499-424

Berkshire Medical Center  
741 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
443-3531

United Cerebral Palsy  
46 Summer Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-1562

Berkshire Benevolent Association  
for the Blind  
P.O. Box 778  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-3450

Pittsfield Council on Aging  
33 Bradford Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
447-7374

Stockbridge Council on Aging  
Main Street  
Stockbridge, MA 01262  
298-3118

Lanesboro Council on Aging  
P.O. Box 206  
Lanesboro, MA 01237  
442-3853

Jewish Community Center  
235 East Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-4360

Lenox Council on Aging  
85 Walker Street  
Lenox, MA 01247  
637-2948

Great Barrington Council on  
Aging  
909 Castle Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230  
1528-1881

Adams Council on Aging  
P.O. Box 255  
East Street  
Adams, MA 01220

North Adams Council on Aging  
Ashland Street  
North Adams, MA 01247  
663-7391

Williamstown Council on Aging  
Harper Court  
118 Church Street  
Williamstown, MA 01267  
458-8250

Lee Council on Aging  
Town Hall  
Lee, MA 01238  
243-2100

Dalton Council on Aging  
400 Main Street  
Dalton, MA 01226  
684-2000

Adlib, Inc.  
442 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
442-7047





TAXI COMPANIES

ABBOTT'S TAXI  
GREYLOCK STREET  
LEE, MA 01238  
JAQUELINE ABBOTT  
243-1645

AMES TAXI  
7 WESLAYAN STREET  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
RACHEL AMES  
663-3141

PARK TAXI SERVICE  
BRADLEY STREET  
LEE, MA 01238  
GERALDINE HUGGINS  
243-0020

VETERAN'S TAXI  
BERKSHIRE PLAZA  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
NORMAN LISI  
663-8300

UNITED TAXI  
13 CHEROKEE DRIVE  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
DUANE BENTLEY  
664-6854

HERITAGE TAXI  
BOX 225  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
WILLIAM CLIFFORD  
664-4800

PEG'S TAXI  
23 WARREN STREET  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
662-3875

COURTESY CAB  
144 WAHCONAH STREET  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01201  
JOHN CLEMONS  
443-0942

RAINBOW TAXI  
P.O. BOX 642  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01202  
ANTHONY RENZI  
447-8117

AAROW TAXI  
P.O. 642  
PITTSFIELD, MA 01202  
STEVE CHASE  
499-4860

COLLEGE TAXI  
378 NORTH STREET  
WILLIAMSTOWN, MA 01267  
WILLIAM REAGAN  
458-2100

COMMUNITY CORPORATION  
8 CASTLE STREET  
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230  
THOMAS RATHBUN  
528-1947

LARRY'S TAXI  
36 HOLDEN STREET  
NORTH ADAMS, MA 01247  
LAWRENCE MONNOT  
662-2744

STOCKBRIDGE LIVERY  
BOX 626  
STOCKBRIDGE, MA 01262  
298-4848





CABULANCE COMPANIES

Berkshire Cabulance  
77 Seymour Street  
P.O. Box 1292  
Pittsfield, Ma 01202  
499-3232  
Michael Wheeler

County Ambulance  
510 North Street  
P.O. Box 752  
Pittsfield, MA 01202  
499-2527  
Thomas Andrews



# TAXI/CABULANCE PROGRAM BY YEAR

	FY'83	FY'84	FY'85	FY'86	TAXI CABULANCE FY'87*		TAXI CABULANCE FY'88*		TAXI CABULANCE FY'89*	
PASSENGER TRIPS	84,113	107,266	117,039	99,870	124,509	5,871	91,769	7,042	82,175	9,031
ADMINISTRATION	\$25,458	\$29,523	\$34,622	\$38,816	\$63,160	\$21,599	\$61,722	\$39,414	\$65,000	\$40,637
CONTRACT	\$209,243	\$256,087	\$261,670	\$299,138	\$268,249	\$111,368	\$249,315	\$126,366	\$271,022	\$166,780
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$234,701	\$285,610	\$296,292	\$337,954	\$331,409	\$132,967	\$311,037	\$165,800	\$336,022	\$207,417
COST PER PASS.	\$2.79	\$2.66	\$2.53	\$3.38	\$2.66	\$22.65	\$3.39	\$23.54	\$4.09	\$22.97
REVENUE	\$111,450	\$134,233	\$137,782	\$138,398	\$141,330	\$21,760	\$128,631	\$27,344	\$137,760	\$35,030
REVENUE PER/PASS.	\$1.33	\$1.25	\$1.18	\$1.39	\$1.14	\$3.71	\$1.40	\$3.88	\$1.68	\$3.88
NET COST	\$123,251	\$151,377	\$158,510	\$199,556	\$190,079	\$111,207	\$182,406	\$138,456	\$198,262	\$172,387
NET COST PER/PASS.	\$1.47	\$1.41	\$1.35	\$2.00	\$1.53	\$18.94	\$1.99	\$19.66	\$2.41	\$19.09
FEDERAL ASSISTANCE	\$10,878	\$48,058	\$25,365	\$73,490	\$65,014	\$43,798	\$56,025	\$49,280	\$81,446	\$52,830
STATE ASSISTANCE	\$60,419	\$57,777	\$19,470	\$55,089	\$58,444	\$39,371	\$56,995	\$51,893	\$52,989	\$34,372
LOCAL SHARE	\$51,954	\$45,542	\$46,607	\$43,301	\$41,621	\$28,038	\$42,386	\$37,283	\$38,827	\$25,185
DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS					\$25,000		\$25,000		\$25,000	
ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN										\$60,000

\* AS OF FISCAL YEAR 1987, THE TAXI TICKET PROGRAM WAS OFFICIALLY SEPERATED INTO TWO SECTIONS:  
TAXI(FOR ELDERS AND ALL HANDICAPPED AND SUBSIDIZED AT 50%) AND CABULANCE (FOR  
SUBSIDIZED AT 80%)



PARA-TRANSIT PROGRAM  
OPERATIONS REPORT BY COMMUNITY AND SERVICE

TAXI (ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED DEMAND RESPONSE)

TOWN	PASSENGERS	CONTRACT COST*	AVERAGE COST PER PASSENGER
ADAMS	363	\$ 1,450	\$ 3.99
CHESHIRE	0	0	0.00
CLARKSBURG	110	550	5.00
DALTON	0	0	0.00
GREAT BARRINGTON	5,399	23,513	4.35
HINSDALE	0	0	0.00
LANESBORO	0	0	0.00
LEE	1,539	6,194	4.02
LENOX	562	4,001	7.12
NORTH ADAMS	25,819	67,009	2.60
PITTSFIELD	47,745	169,059	3.54
STOCKBRIDGE	141	1,462	10.37
WILLIAMSTOWN	497	1,800	3.62
TOTAL	82,175	\$ 275,037	\$ 3.35

CABULANCE (WHEELCHAIRFAST ONLY)

TOWN	PASSENGERS	CONTRACT COST*	AVERAGE COST PER PASSENGER
ADAMS	64	\$ 1,390	\$ 21.72
CHESHIRE	61	1,405	23.03
CLARKSBURG	2	50	25.00
DALTON	1,044	21,080	20.19
GREAT BARRINGTON	160	3,205	20.03
HINSDALE	154	3,460	22.47
LANESBORO	87	1,770	20.34
LEE	176	4,020	22.84
LENOX	670	14,190	21.18
NORTH ADAMS	174	3,410	19.60
PITTSFIELD	6,101	94,450	15.48
STOCKBRIDGE	5	120	24.00
WILLIAMSTOWN	108	2,195	20.32
NON-RESIDENTS	225	3,735	16.60
TOTAL	9,031	\$ 154,480	\$ 17.11

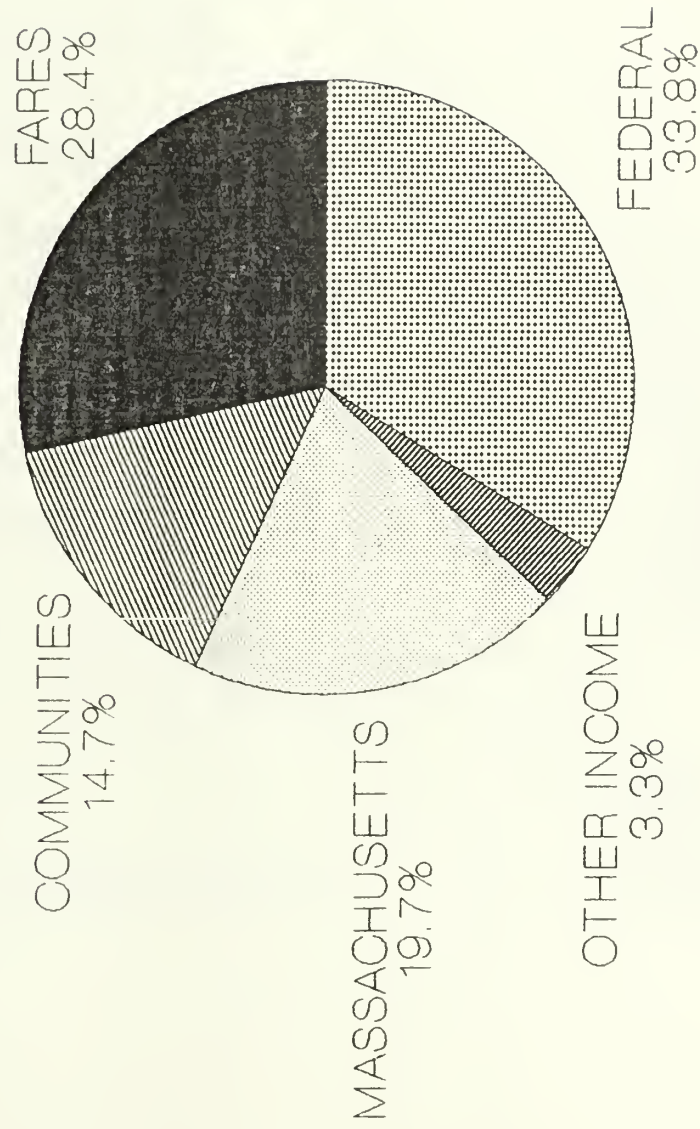
VAN SERVICE (NUTRITION SITES)

TOWN	PASSENGERS	CONTRACT COST*	AVERAGE COST PER PASSENGER
DALTON			
MEAL SITES	1,259	\$ 4,407	\$ 3.50
OTHER	232	813	3.50
LANESBORO			
MEAL SITES	1,666	5,831	3.50
OTHER	253	886	3.50
LENOX			
MEAL SITES	1,996	6,986	3.50
OTHER	0	0	0.00
TOTAL	5,406	\$ 18,922	\$ 3.50

\* Does not include Administrative costs



# SUMMARY OF FUNDING SOURCE



Other Income:  
D.E.A.:Department Elder Affairs-\$25,000  
A.I.P.:Accessibility Improvement-\$60,000

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# STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

For the Year Ended June 30, 1989

## Operating Revenues

Fare Revenue:			
Fixed Route	\$	539,441	
Demand response		182,251	\$ 721,692
Interest Income			30,681
Other Income			0
Total Operating Income			\$ 752,373

## Operating Expenses

Transportation Contracts:			
Fixed Route	\$	1,641,613	
Demand Response		456,723	\$ 2,098,336
Administrative Salaries			69,288
Professional & Technical Services			31,197
Public Relations			5,488
Printing			4,777
General Insurance & Accident Claims			13,134
Pension & Group Insurance			32,143
Travel & Meetings			200
Office Supplies & Expense			3,155
Utilities & Maintenance			13,477
Telephone			3,483
Interest Expense			105,841
Miscellaneous			5,725
Total Operating Expenses			\$ 2,386,244

Net Cost Of Service \$ 1,633,871

Federal Assistance	\$	728,083	
State Assistance		473,698	
Local Assistance		347,090	
Accessibility Improvement Program		60,000	
Special Fare Assistance Grant		25,000	
			\$ 1,633,871



# BALANCE SHEET

As of June 30, 1988

## ASSETS

### Current Assets

Cash and Short-term Investments	\$	320,463	
Accounts Receivable			
Urban Mass			
Transportation Administration		737,488	
Commonwealth of Massachusetts		530,000	
Member communities		373,392	
Other		62,175	
Total Current Assets			\$ 2,023,518

Property and Equipment	\$	4,851,132	
Less Accumulated Depreciation		2,631,279	
Net Property and Equipment			\$ 2,219,853

Total Assets \$ 4,243,37

## LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

### Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$	90,731	
Accrued Interest and Other Liabilities		98,169	
Unredeemed Taxi, Van and Cabulance Tickets		38,300	
Notes Payable		1,800,000	
Total Liabilities			\$ 2,027,200

EQUITY - CONTRIBUTED CAPITAL \$ 2,216,171

Total Equity \$ 2,216,171

Total Liabilities and Equity \$ 4,243,37





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